

## Railway Heritage Society AGM

DUNDALK Railway Heritage Society will hold their Annual General Meeting at 3pm Saturday March 2 at 3pm at the Oriel Centre (Old Gaol), St. Dominics Place, Carrick Road, Dundalk.

The committee invite all members to attend. Annual subscriptions for 2024 may be paid on the day.

After the business of the AGM is concluded there will be an illustrated lecture given by member Michael McMahon. The title of the lecture is *Local Travels with RM Arnold*. The talk will concentrate on the railways in Armagh, Louth and Monaghan.



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

### Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

#### Ardee Castle Refurbishment, Ardee, Co. Louth

Louth County Council hereby gives notice of its intention to carry out refurbishment works to Ardee Castle, a Protected Structure comprising the Castle, Bridewell building to the rear and modern courtyard extension (Ref LHS 017-017, NIAH 13823004) and a National Monument, (Ref LH 017-101018) and the adjoining house, a protected structure (Ref LHS -017-073, NIAH 13823005) at Ardee Castle, Castle Street, Ardee Co. Louth

The application site is within the Ardee Architectural Conservation Area as designated in the Louth County Council Development Plan 2021-2027.

The proposed works involve the following:

- Main entrance relocation to the adjoining building on Castle Street to facilitate universal access
- Rear extensions encompassing external stair, lift and services core finished externally in zinc cladding with some glazed openings to a height of 4 floors to rear of buildings providing universal access and egress to ground and upper levels of the building.
- Refurbishment of the interior of the Castle building
- All associated site development works.

In accordance with Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, Louth County Council has concluded from a preliminary examination pursuant to the provisions of article 120(1)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and that an Environmental Impact Assessment is not required.

Where any person considers that the proposed development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time before the expiration of 4 weeks beginning on the date of publication of this notice, apply in accordance with the provisions of article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have such effects.

In accordance with the provisions of article 250 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended, Louth County Council has carried out a screening of the proposed development to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if the development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site. Accordingly, Louth County Council has determined that the proposed development would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, from Thursday, 22nd February 2024 until Thursday, 21st March 2024 (inclusive) at the offices of Louth County Council during public opening hours:

- Ardee Library, Market Street, Cappocksgreen, Ardee
- Mid Louth Civic Services Centre, Fair Green, Ardee
- Plans and particulars will also be available to view online on the consultation portal of Louth County Council <https://consult.louthcoco.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, clearly marked "Ardee Castle Refurbishment Part 8" may be made either:

- In writing to the undersigned at Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth
- Via National Part 8 Planning Portal <https://planning.localgov.ie/en>

before 5.00pm on Thursday 4th April 2024.

Dated 21st February 2024

Terry Hamilton, Town Regeneration Officer  
Placemaking and Physical Development, Louth County Council

County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, County Louth A91 KFW6  
t 042 9335457 w [www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie) e [info@louthcoco.ie](mailto:info@louthcoco.ie)  
View Alerts at [www.mapalserter.ie/louth](http://www.mapalserter.ie/louth)

# Dundalk man calls for support for Daffodil Day

By MARGARET RODDY

DUNDALK man Joseph Woods, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma just months after his wife suffered a stroke, is calling on people to support Daffodil Day.

"Katie had a stroke on August 19 2019, just a month to the day that we were married," says Joseph from Dundalk.

"When she had started to recover, I started to get ill. It all happened in a couple of months."

"I had a sore back and when I say sore I mean excruciating. It was so sore that I would collapse and couldn't move for a length of time."

He was in and out of hospital before getting a diagnosis of Hodgkin's Lymphoma - an uncommon cancer that develops in the lymphatic system.

"I had six biopsies and surgery."

Two days later, he began six months of chemotherapy treatment.

"The same week that I started chemo, we discovered that Katie was expecting."

"It was a bittersweet time but it gave me something to fight for, something to look forward to."

Joseph underwent six months of chemo, travelling to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda every two weeks.

"Chemotherapy was pretty tough, it really took its toll on my body, I put on a lot of weight and lost my hair," he says.

He also set up a Facebook page 'Joseph's journey with Hodgkin's lymphoma' to document his illness and to provide hope and support to others in



Joseph and Katie Woods with their daughter Dayna who was born just after Joseph finished treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma.

a similar situation

"I wanted to document what I was going through and let people know how I was getting on. I also wanted to raise awareness about Hodgkin's so that if someone had the same symptoms as me, they would get checked."

He admits that he was a "typical man" and didn't go to the doctor straight away when he started getting back pain.

"I did what fellas do - I put it on the long finger. I thought it was just a pain in the back and took painkillers."

"If my story helps one person, I'll be happy. I think especially men can put things off, but if

there is something wrong, go get it checked. If I hadn't, I might not be here today to tell my story."

Joseph and Katie were over the moon in August 2020, when they were told he was cancer free and now in remission.

"I have to have routine check ups for five years and at the last one I was told I'm still in remission."

Their beautiful baby girl, Dayna was born in October 2020. Dayna is now three, and Joseph has since returned to work as a Prison Officer.

During treatment, he found great solace in the support of the Irish Cancer Society.

"I spoke to some Irish Cancer Society Nurses, and it was good to have someone to speak to and know that I wasn't alone, because opening up and talking to people really helps, it makes it so much easier."

Since Joseph was diagnosed in 2020, he has lost both his godparents, a cousin, and a friend to cancer.

He also praises the North Louth Hospice in Dundalk. "They are brilliant. I can't praise them enough. They are all volunteers and were very good to us and we'll never forget that."

To support Daffodil Day see [www.cancer.ie](http://www.cancer.ie)

## Use of CCTV and drones to combat illegal dumping and littering won't come in overnight

By JOHN SAVAGE

IT could still be some time before CCTV is used to combat littering and dumping in Co Louth, despite a recent legislation change.

Sinn Féin Councillor Antóin Watters welcomed the recent announcement by Minister Ossian Smyth that local authorities will now be allowed to use technology to monitor dumping hotspots and help tackle illegal dumping and flytipping, however, he was informed on Monday that while it's a welcome addition to the Council "armory", it won't be rolled out immediately.

"Up until now the use of CCTV and drones etc was a legal minefield," Cllr Watters said. "It felt like Louth County Council were fighting this issue with one hand tied behind their backs. Well, no more! CCTV, drones and even bodycams can be used to tackle this scourge as new regulations were signed in on 9th February.

"The Circular Economy Act 2022 is only being enforced now because of a delay by the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA) and it makes provision



Cllr Antoin Watters welcomes the news that local authorities can use CCTV and drones to clamp down on illegal dumping.

for these technologies to be used in a way that complies with Data Protection (GDPR) regulations which was always a legal concern."

Cllr Watters has been vocal on this issue for many years as he described illegal dumping as "rampant in some of the rural areas."

"There has been a spike of illegal dumping on the Turf Road at Edentubber and

this is just one hotspot that I will be seeking the use of these new technologies."

Cllr Watters pledged to raise this at the local Council meeting next week and ensure that Louth County Council is adequately funded, resourced and trained to implement these technologies without delay to "bring the scourge of illegal dumping in this county to an end."