



DARA CALLEARY

TD FOR MAYO

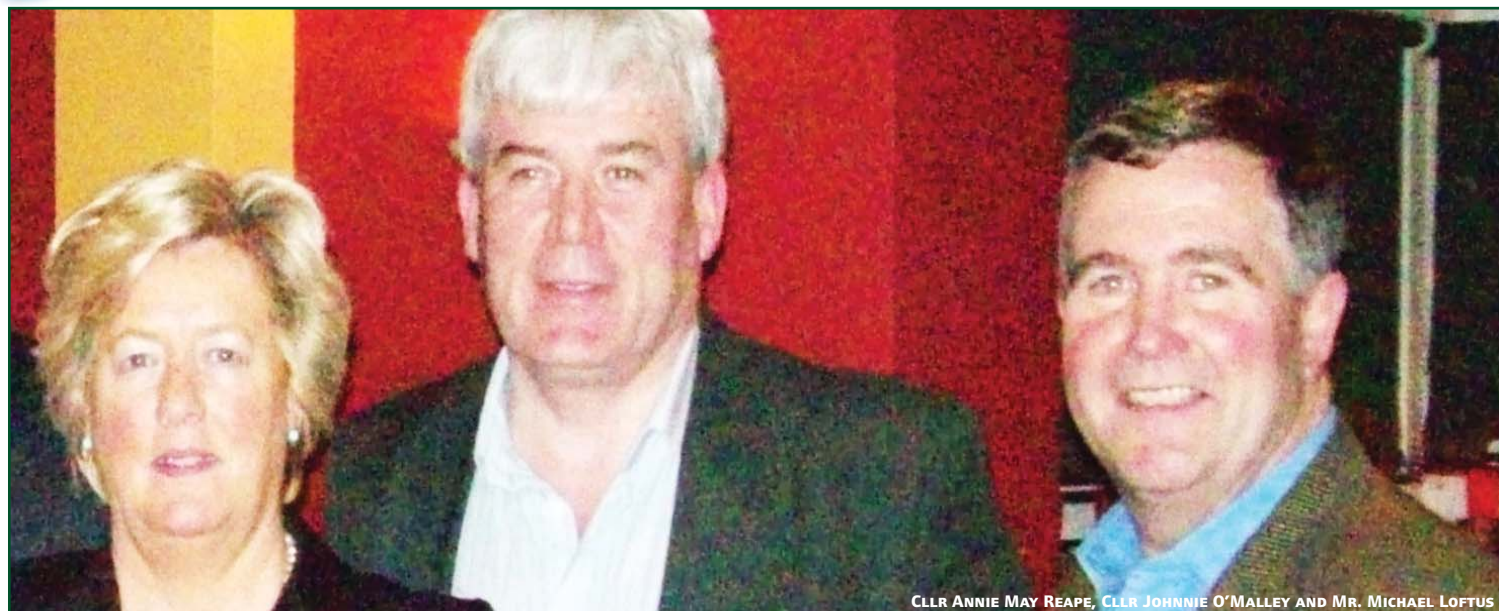
FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

working with

CLLR JOHNNIE O'MALLEY MCC
CLLR ANNIE MAY REAPE MCC
MR. MICHAEL LOFTUS

LOCAL UPDATE

PARISH OF BACKS



CLLR ANNIE MAY REAPE, CLLR JOHNNIE O'MALLEY AND MR. MICHAEL LOFTUS

KNOCKMORE/RATHDUFF RESOURCE CENTRE SUCCESS

Since the concept of a Knockmore/Rathduff Resource & Recreation Centre was first born in late 2000, the Parish of Backs has been transformed.

Over the course of the past seven years since construction work commenced, the Knockmore/Rathduff Resource Centre has become a flagship facility for the entire county of Mayo. It is a credit to the entire community endeavour that brought about its creation and development.

Your local Fianna Fáil representatives are proud to have been associated with the ongoing growth and expansion of the centre and the ever-increasing range of services being made available to the people of the parish.



KNOCKMORE/RATHDUFF RESOURCE AND RECREATION CENTRE

€128,000 SECURED IN 2008

DURING 2008 Deputy Dara Calleary has used his influence at Government level to secure funding of over €128,000 for the centre.

Under the Sports Capital Programme grant aid of €50,000 was approved for the provision of sports and exercise equipment.

The Community Support for Older People Programme awarded a further €18,148 in July.

In November Minister Eamonn O'Cuiv's Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs allocated €60,000 under the Grants for Community and Voluntary Organisations bringing the overall funding to €128,148.

SERVICES PROVIDED

SUSTAINED Government funding has resulted in a vast range of services being made available locally and Ministers Eamonn O'Cuiv (Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs), Mary Hanafin (Social and Family Affairs) and Barry Andrews (Children) have visited the centre in past two years.

- There are currently eight local people employed on the Community Services Programme (CSP) Scheme at the centre.
- The Rural Transport Initiative (RTI) was launched by Dara Calleary TD in December 2007 and offers elderly citizens of the parish the opportunity to visit the centre every Tuesday while on Thursday's the scheme provides door-to-door transport to and from Ballina.
- The centre is home to a state-of-the-art

gymnasium and a community library that are available to all. The library is stocked with over €75,000 worth of books.

A Sports Capital Grant of €80,000 in 2005 and €20,000 in 2007 provided the funds for gym and indoor games equipment.

- Community Childcare began in 2005 thanks to a Capital Grant of €155,000 and Staffing Grant of €157,000 from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform. This number has grown annually with over 40 children currently enrolled and three people employed.
- Meals on Wheels, co-ordinated from the centre, is provided throughout the parish on a daily basis. Grants have been secured through HSE West.



DARA CALLEARY TD OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED THE RURAL TRANSPORT INITIATIVE IN DECEMBER 2007

COMMUNITY GROUP ACTIVITIES

A FOCAL point for the community, the Knockmore/Rathduff Resource & Recreation Centre is currently being utilised by over 20 local sporting and community organisations.

These include Knockmore Fianna Fáil, Knockmore GAA Club, Knockmore Foróige Club, Knockmore/Rathduff Boxing Club, Irish Farmers Association (IFA), Parent & Toddler Group.

Other activities include Dance Lessons, Hip Hop, Music Lessons, Computer Classes, Ballet Lessons and Aerobics making the centre a hive of activity all-year round.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANNED

THE provision of a new Community Hall of 6, 000 Sq Ft is currently under construction behind the Resource & Recreation Centre.

This will, in effect, replace the old St. Joseph's Hall and will be completed towards the end of 2009 / early 2010.

It is anticipated that the hall will become home to the Boxing Club and other sporting organisations and that drama, concerts and bingo will be held there regularly.

€250,000 has been allocated to the development by Mayo County Council under the Economic and Social Development Fund and we will endeavour to secure additional funding towards the completion of this project.

Clrs O'Malley and Reape were delighted to support this project.

KNOCKMORE GAA CLUB MOST MODERN AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE GROUND

This is an extremely ambitious project and with government funding has steadily progressed over the course of the last council term, 2004-09.

Under the Sports Capital Programme €170,000 was allocated in 2004 and in 2007 a further €120,000 was awarded to the club.

The new development, when completed, will make St. Joseph's Park one of the most modern and easily accessed club grounds in Connacht.

SEWERAGE SCHEME

The Preliminary Report for the proposed Knockmore Sewerage Scheme has been issued by Mayo County Council's Water Services Capital Works.

The overall estimated cost of the proposed scheme is €938, 000 while operation and maintenance costs are estimated at €25, 000 per annum.

Your local Fianna Fáil team is continuing to pursue this project and is determined to see it through to completion.

SRAHEENS NATIONAL SCHOOL

THE €154,807 extension and refurbishment of Sraheens National School has been completed. While the work was being carried out the school relocated to the Knockmore/Rathduff Resource & Recreation Centre.

The new extension doubled the size of the school and great credit must be bestowed upon the Board of Management and Principle Gabriel Lavin for their perseverance in seeing the project through to fruition.

Deputy Dara Calleary was delighted to secure the Government funding for this extension.

PONTOON INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

THE provision of angling facilities and infrastructural improvements were secured by Deputy Dara Calleary from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism in 2007.

Under the programme grant aid for the works was 75 per cent of eligible expenditure to a maximum of €180, 000 and has resulted in new bridge lighting and footpaths that have transformed the area.

These improvement works have greatly added to Pontoon and its lakes, Conn and Cullen, as tourist attractions for anglers from all over Europe and beyond.

DARA CALLEARY TD

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Dara is available to meet you every Monday and Friday at his constituency office or at weekends and after hours by appointment.



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AN PÁIRTÍ POBLACHTÁNACH

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