

**David Flanagan (Independent)**  
**Community Candidate for Change**  
**Clane electoral area**  
**(Your Watchdog for planning)**

71 Abbeyfield,  
Kilcock,  
Co Kildare.

**Bawnogues Recreational, Sport, and Amenity Campus**

I am an independent candidate running for change in the Clane electoral area. The single most important issue for the community of Kilcock is the development of the Bawnogues. We have at least five sports and social clubs and groups within our community living out of rented accommodation and many have been there for over thirty years and more. They cater for the sporting activities of our children in the community of Kilcock.

The Bawnogues Kilcock has thirty to forty acres of land zoned and available to provide pitches, running track, basketball, tennis courts, skate board park, hockey pitches, recreational walkways and a site for a community centre.

To realise all the above at the Bawnogues, it will be necessary for Kildare Co Council to return these lands to their original green field site. This can only be addressed by removing unwanted waste soil and rubble dumped there during the building of the M4. The Bawnogues must then be drained, levelled and reseeded to return it to its original pristine condition. It will be then possible to maximise the use for many clubs and groups who are crying out for facilities.

It is essential that long established clubs and groups are brought together under the one umbrella to promote the development of the Bawnogues. It will provide for our community a modern state of the art facility that will accommodate for example our youth club, dramatics society, library, café, art exhibition area, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, indoor football, weight room, sauna, dancing, meeting rooms, shower and changing facilities, viewing area etc.

There is a pool of untapped talent in our community that remains undeveloped due to the lack of facilities, and this is going to increase because of the growth of our population. This situation is intolerable when you consider that we had a perfect location for our community campus and it remained undeveloped because it was ignored by Kildare Co Council who then allowed the site to be used as a dumping ground for development. We as residents should not allow further residential and commercial development to dictate our future. Development at the behest of developers and banks which was condoned and encouraged by Kildare Co Council and our main political parties is the root cause of our current problems.

Our future is in our own hands. There is a need for a community recreational, sporting, and amenity campus in the Bawnogues. We must ensure it provides every opportunity to release the untapped talent and creativity that has built up in our community.

We need to change the priorities of Kildare Co Council, and bring together all of our community to provide change for the good of our children. It is imperative that we as a community are the authors of our own destiny and demand a community recreational, sporting, and amenity campus is built in the Bawnogues.

I want to ensure that sporting facilities are provided for the good of our children, future generations and to keep our youth away from the evils of drugs and involvement in anti social behaviour.

We have already paid for the majority of the cost of the campus in substantial development levies collected by Kildare Co Council over the last number of years in our community. The time to begin this change is now and lay the foundations for future generations.

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