

# Man who had child porn images in Lucan to be assessed

by Elmer Dodd

A FORMER member of the Irish Defence Forces who pleaded guilty to possession of child abuse material has had his case adjourned for an independent risk assessment to be carried out before sentencing.

Adrian Short (45) of Corbetsown, Killucan, County Westmeath, pleaded guilty to possession of seven images and 14 videos of child pornography at Griffen Glen Drive, Lucan on 29th March, 2021.

Judge Melanie Greally ordered the Probation Service to carry out the assessment as part of a probation report to establish if any additional safeguards are required.

Detective Garda Sharon Duncan told the court that a warrant was obtained to search a property following a referral from the Garda National Protective Bureau.

A search was carried out on 29th March, 2021, and the defendant, a father-of-three, handed a Samsung Galaxy mobile phone to gardai.

The court heard other devices were seized as part of the search, but were clean.

The defendant made a statement to gardai during the search, admitting that he had previously accessed child abuse material, which had been deleted, and accessed it again two days before the date of the search.

The phone contained sexually explicit images of children and video of adults engaged in sexual abuse of children.

Short told gardai he had been sexually abused by his father as a child, and his father had been prosecuted for this.

### Arrested

Short was later arrested by arrangement at Clondalkin Garda Station on 24th May, 2021.

Detective Duncan agreed with Fiona McGowan BL, prosecuting, that the defendant admitted in a later interview that he had used other platforms, but could not recall their names.

Short has no previous convictions. Tusla carried out an investigation, but had no concerns.

Detective Duncan said Short accessed the images using the Telegram app, and was identified because he used his phone number as his ID. The detective said she was not aware that any payments had been made.

Detective Duncan agreed with David Staunton, BL, for the defence, that Short had co-operated and Tusla had no concerns following their separate investigation.

Mr Staunton told Judge Greally that the historic sex abuse in the defendant's family caused great personal shame to the defendant and his family.

Two of his siblings also had died in tragic circumstances when he was a teenager.

Short left school at 14 before joining the Irish Defence Forces at the age of 21. He served as a non-commissioned officer in the Military Archives until 2019.

Mr Staunton said the situation had come as a "great shock" to the defendant's wife and family, disrupting their relationship, which has since been re-established. He also lost a new job as a result of the publicity.

Mr Staunton said Short accepted the seriousness of his behaviour and its ramifications.

Letters from the defendant, his ex-wife, father-in-law, counsellor, and a neighbour were handed into the court. Judge Greally noted that defendant is engaged in counselling, but said there would be a benefit in an independent assessment.

She adjourned the case to 21st October to be finalised.

### PLANNING

**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL:** We, Stephen and Natasha Shelley, intend to apply for planning permission for conversion of existing attic space comprising of modification of existing roof structure, raising of existing gable e/w window and Dutch hip, new access stairs and flat roof dormer to the rear at 2 Finnsparck, Finnsparck Cloisters, Lucan, County Dublin. This application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of South Dublin County Council during its public opening hours of 9am - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

# 142 new social homes to be delivered in Kildare

by Lisa Deeney

THE Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, this week welcomed the launch of a new phase of Local Authority social housing delivery that will see approximately 1,530 new homes delivered across a number of local authorities, including 142 on two sites in Kildare.

Today's launch builds on a successful Public Private Partnership social housing pilot programme being delivered by the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA) in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and relevant local authorities, and which has, or is in the process of delivering, in the region of 1,500 social homes, including: 534 new houses and apartments across six sites in Dublin, Kildare, Louth and Wicklow in 2020 and 2021; 465 homes in 2021 across eight sites in Cork, Clare, Galway, Kildare, Roscommon and Waterford; 480 new homes to be delivered across six sites in Dublin, Kildare, Sligo and Wicklow with all sites at the statutory planning phase.

"Approximately 142 individuals and families in Co Kildare, and over 1,500 in total across four counties, will benefit from the latest social housing Public-Private Partnership programme announced today," said Minister O'Brien on Wednesday.

"This Government, through Housing for All, is committed to increasing the supply of social housing to an average of 10,000 social homes per annum between 2022 and 2030."

### On-going work

Work is on-going to progress further phases under the programme. A public-private partnership (PPP) is an arrangement between a public authority and a private partner designed to deliver a public infrastructure project or service under a long-term contract.

"I recently had the pleasure of seeing first-hand some completed housing developments in County

Cork which were progressed part of an earlier phase of the programme," said Minister O'Brien. "The success of this initiative evident from the high quality houses I visited, which are proving new homes and a fresh start for individuals and families."

"The pilot social housing programme was unique in being the first social housing PPP project in Ireland. It was also the first time local authorities collaborated to deliver social housing projects and the first time European Investment Bank financing has been used in social housing PPP," he added. "It was also the first time the Irish charity sector has been involved in a PPP consortium."

# CELBRIDGE PAROCHIAL HOUSE TO BE SITE OF NEW THEATRE AND LIBRARY

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Following this positive meeting, Cllr. Coleman engaged with former Kildare County Council CEO, Peter Carey, who "could also see the potential that this sale would offer the residents of Celbridge."

In July 2021, Cllr. Coleman organised and attended an introductory meeting in the parochial house and attended this meeting with Interim CEO, Sonya Kavanagh, and Interim Director of Services, Marian Higgins, together with Fr. Joe and members of the Parish Committee.

"I am delighted that this meeting set this agreement in motion and many thanks to all in KCC and to Fr. Joe and the Parish Committee

and wellbeing of the community in one cultural campus."

"The development and repurposing of this significant building will fit with the historic traditions of the site - as a supporter and provider of community strength, learning, compassion and culture."

Marian Higgins, Interim Director of Services, Kildare County Council said "The development of a new library, cultural centre and community space will play a transformative role in the town's confidence, capacity and sustainable growth while helping to support the economic, cultural and recreational life of the community."

Sonya Kavanagh, Interim Chief Executive of Kildare County Council, said: "Offering accessibility for all, this central location at the heart of the town, will provide for the recreational, cultural, educational needs

exciting time for the parishioners of Celbridge and Straffan. The parish priest also acknowledged the enormous contribution of the Holy Faith sisters to family life in the parish over many decades and stated that he is delighted their legacy will live on in the redeveloped faith-based facility. This lay, religious, and clerical community, led initially by Fr. Joe, will also be based in the new Parish facility, to be known as Roncalli House.

In welcoming the Kildare County Council plans Fr. Joe expressed his satisfaction that the repurposing of the former Parochial House and lands will ensure continuation of the long-standing tradition of supporter and provider of community strength, learning, compassion, and culture that was associated with the Parochial house for circa 200 years.

Local Independent Cllr. Ide Cussen was clearly delighted with the announcement about the new civic space, saying: "It is such a wonderful location, we are blessed today."

"This is a most wonderful day for Celbridge, a new state of the art Library/Theatre/Civic Space is now happening," said Cllr. Cussen.

Cllr. Cussen had forwarded a motion in December 2018 to the County Council. "That this Municipal District be given a time-frame and an implementation process for ensuring that Celbridge gets a Civic Space/Library that will serve all the people of our Municipal District."

"Up to this stage a new Library for Celbridge wasn't on the Agenda" "I had been asking how come Celbridge didn't have a modern Library, one that is fully accessible etc. How

come Celbridge didn't have a modern building that Drama Groups, Youth Theatre Groups, Art Groups etc could use for entertainment events for our Area," said Cllr. Cussen.

"The response to me has been that Celbridge was on the Scheme 1 Libraries." "My Motion put Celbridge on the Scheme 1 Libraries and Kildare County Council Library Development Plan 2020-24 said the Cllr: "We now have a wonderful site, a very picturesque site, one that leads down the Liffey, in the heart of Celbridge Main Street."

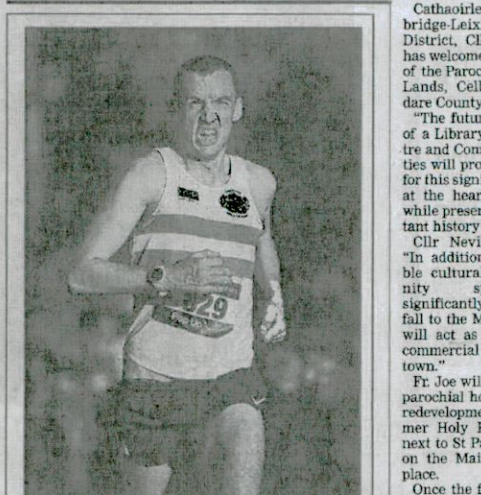
"It has enormous potential and I look forward working with everyone seeing the delivery of most wonderful building one that will serve many purposes, one that is Universally Accessible to All," Cllr. Cussen said.

Death of Patrick Kriégel in Leixlip

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Mr Kriégel is mourned by his loving wife Geraldine, Aaron, Brun, Nathalie, Philippe, his family, friends and all those who are familiar with the cruel loss of a man who suffered in May 2018.

One sympathiser, who was a student of Patrick's, writing a RIP.ie perhaps summarised it up for everyone who was writing: "When I think of Patrick today I try to think only of his awfulness that he and his family have had to endure, but try to remember his sense of fun, conviviality, joie de vivre and his infectious conspiratorial giggle. Qu'il repose en paix."



Martin Hoare of Celbridge AC competing in the Dunshaughlin 10km Kia Race Series in County Meath last Saturday (18th June).  
Pic: David Fitzgerald/Sportsfile