



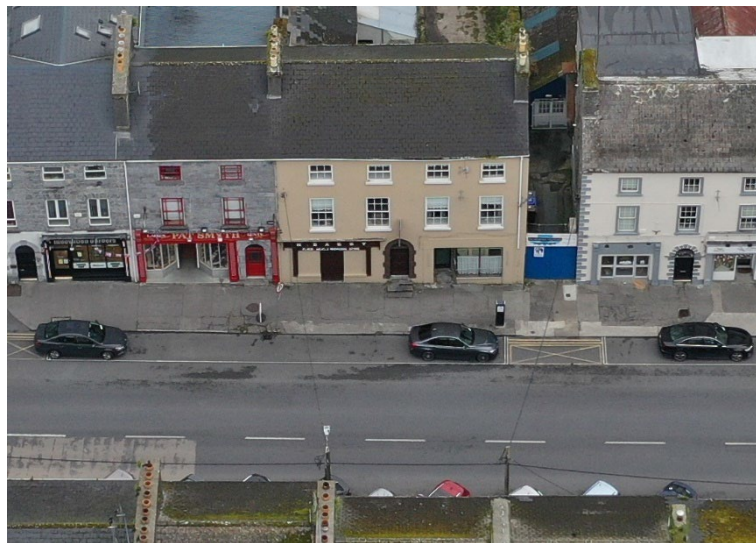
Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

GORT PUBLIC REALM ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

AN COIMISIUN PLEANALA CASE NO. 323066-25

**GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO
OBSERVATION BY:**

J. RICKS



Existing condition at R460 – M. Barry building, Main Street, Gort.

Preamble

Galway County Council submit the following response to the James Ricks observation in respect of the Gort Public Realm Enhancement Project Part 10 Planning Application.

Galway County Council wishes to thank James Ricks for his detailed observations regarding the Gort Public Realm Enhancement Project (Part 10 Planning Application). We note and appreciate the points raised in the submission and recognise the importance of ensuring that any proposed changes serve the best interests of the entire community.

Proposed public realm design to encourage outdoor dining and social interaction:

The proposed public realm enhancement works shall embody the strategic aims and objectives outlined in Galway County Council Development Plan 2022 – 2028 in particular Chapter 3. Placemaking, Regeneration & Urban Living: *‘...to enhance the attractiveness and improve the vibrancy and vitality for individuals and businesses alike.’* These aims and objectives are reiterated in the Gort Local Area Plan 2025 – 2031 and in the community led Town Centre First Plan.

At present the footpath outside of the M. Barry building is 3500mm wide. As part of the proposed public realm enhancement project (should planning permission be granted) the clear footpath width will be increased to approximately 4292mm with an overall width of 5732mm. This increase is to be implemented in support of the aims and objectives described in the Galway Development Plan and supporting statutory and non-statutory documents.

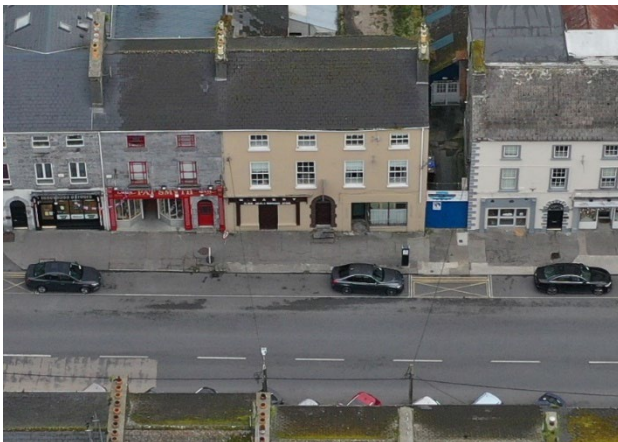


Photo 1: The current condition of the public realm outside of the M. Barry building

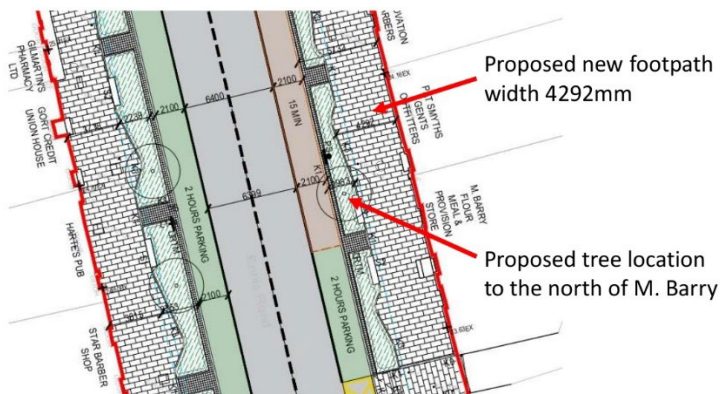


Image 1: Extract from drawing number DR-L-0106 showing the proposed clear footpath width of 4292mm with an overall width of 5732mm. The tree is located to the north of the premises in question and will therefore not obstruct natural light.

It should be noted that the proposed tree location lies to the north of the M. Barry building and therefore no significant loss of natural daylight into the premises is anticipated.

The location of public seating within the project area has been considered with regard to the provision of rest stops for the mobility impaired and the elderly members of the community.

The requirement for additional cycle stands could be reviewed at detail design stage in specific instances where demand is demonstrated.

It should be noted that **no** works to the Christ the King monument, located in the market square, form any part of this planning application. The drawings and documents submitted in respect of this planning application contain **no** information such as details, written description, dimensions, or specifications as would be required should any works to the monument be proposed.

Conclusion:

Galway County Council values the input given by all stakeholders throughout the community consultation process. This collaborative approach brought the communities priorities to the fore and these were incorporated as far as practicable into the proposed Public Realm Enhancement Project.

Signed on behalf of Galway County Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liam Hanrahan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Liam Hanrahan

Director of Services.