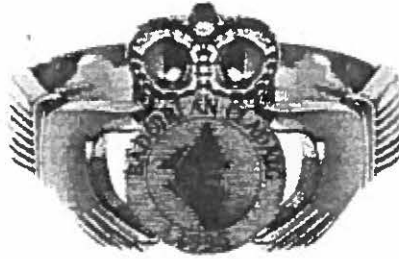




Community Boat
Club



10th March 2014

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1.

Ref. 61 PA 0033

Dear Sirs,

We are writing in relation to the Planning Application from Galway Harbour Company regarding the extension of Galway Port.

Badoiri an Cladaig Teo is very supportive of this application and commends the harbour company on their foresight in bringing this project to planning stage. Badoiri an Cladaig Teo are a Community based Boat Club in the Claddagh Galway City, established in 1996. Our primary aim was to revive interest in past sailing traditions in the Galway City and Claddagh by rebuilding the fleet of Traditional Galway hookers. The overall aim being to preserve and pass on to future generations the long tradition of boatbuilding and sailing that was a large part of Galway City's heritage and to promote sports tourism.

Since our first restoration in 2009, **Badoiri An Cladaig Teo**, are working on our fifth Galway hooker with three workshops working in tandem restoring/building Galway Hookers' with twenty three personnel directly involved in part time employment and or Training and Education Initiative. We currently have 2 Traditional Galway Hookers completed and actively sailing, with 2 more coming on stream in 2015. We are also repairing a 47' Galway Hooker which will be relaunched in mid-summer 2014.

The ytube link below will define the many aspects involved and the huge importance of the project to the City of Galway.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCjr23zZPqc&feature=youtube_gdata_player

Over the last 4 years it has been problematic berthing vessels at the existing docks. Space is not available. The Harbour Board have facilitated , **Badoiri An Cladaig Teo's**, traditional boats over this period , but the logistics of moving vessels to accommodate commercial traffic is extremely difficult for the Dock management.

Badoiri an Cladaig Teo see the extension of Galway Port as a necessary next step in developing an appropriate Docks that suits both commercial marine sector and Galway's Traditional sailing /fishing vessels. Badoiri an Cladaig Teo are also affiliated with the Galway Hooker Association. and take part in all of the, Traditional Regattas along the coast of Connemara and Clare. Galway City will facilitate two regattas yearly which will see 15/25 traditional sailing craft come to Galway for these events.

Bádóirí an Cladaig Teo

email: claddaghboatmen@gmail.com

President: Michael Lynskey; Chairman: Michael Coyne; Vice Chairman: Martin Joyce;
Secretary: Peter Connolly; Treasurer: James Croker; Committee Member: Thomas O'Flaherty

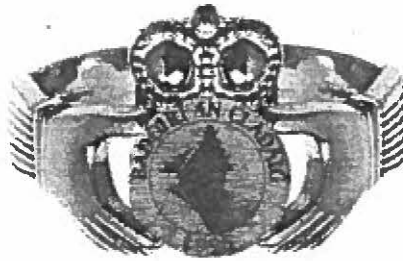
Company Registration Number: 466290

www.claddaghboatmen.com

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The first Regatta this summer is planned for the June Bank Holiday and without the assurance of a safe haven at Galway Docks it would be extremely difficult to entice these vessels to the Galway City.

A safe haven for these traditional craft to berth is an essential requirement before the owners commit.

Badoiri an Cladaig's Teo. restoration is multi-faceted: 1, building of traditional craft, 2, providing the necessary trained personnel to actively sail the vessels. 3, promoting sport/tourism in the West of Ireland by offering trips on Galway Bay.

When not sailing the 47' Galway Hooker (Naomh Bairbre) will be used as a floating museum to showcase the flotilla of traditional boats. Tourists will be welcome to come on board to watch a short film on the history, which these iconic vessels played in the life of Galway over the last two centuries.

This aspect of the project will give further employment to at least 5 individuals, to showcase and maintain these vessels at the Docks.

Badoiri an Cladaig Teo see phase 3 of the proposed Harbour extension "The Marina" as an ideal safe haven for showcasing these traditional craft in a protected environment. The Marina will allow Badoiri an Cladaig Teo's, new flotilla of traditional sailing /fishing craft and visiting Traditional Hookers from across Connemara and Clare the safe haven required.

Further phase 3, will allow Traditional Craft fulltime access with the increased depth of water at low tide, which increases twofold opportunity to run a successful advertising campaign to entice tourists to avail of pleasure trips and or professional training on, Traditional Galway Hookers.

Development of the Galway Port will attract major maritime festivals, such as the Volvo Ocean Race, Tall Ships Race, Galway Sea Festival, the SB20 National Sailing Championship and the Traditional Regattas which will greatly increase the maritime tourism industry in Galway and the west of Ireland.

The successful outcome of the proposed extension of the Galway Port will finally give Galway City the opportunity to guarantee both the commercial and sport/tourism sector that Galway Port is now a safe haven of European standard.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Connolly
Secretary
Badoiri an Cladaig Teo.
c/o 2 New Road, Galway

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