

Claddagh Residents Association

(Established 1969)



c/o 14 Upper Fairhill Road
Claddagh
Galway

Oral Submission to An Bord Pleanála 22nd January 2015

Dear Sir

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to make an oral submission on this development. This submission is as a result of a number of public meetings held with the residents of the area. Some might say it's ironic that the Claddagh Residents Association is making an oral submission on the morning of the highest tide of the year at 5.6M, we face the same height tomorrow morning at 06:50. Luckily this year the high winds and Code Red weather warning was last week so we've survived without flooding this January it would seem.

Fundamentally our objection is against the scale of the actual development and the lack of any flood relief measures included in it. We're all told that this development is what will shape the future of the city we all love, surely it should be an inclusive development that recognises all the legitimate concerns of the people it affects most, its neighbours.

Our objections are based on the many years' experience, just like this morning of being up to ensure that the high tide along with the high winds isn't going to deliver water inside our doors. We listen to many experts explain the different parts to this development and modelling that has been done, however the difference of one or two inches in the Claddagh can mean the difference between whether you're mopping out your house or not, the house we might add that you can't get insurance for any more. What is the scaled size of one or two inches on the scale models that the experts used?

We would appeal to the board that additional flood relief measures should be made part of the conditions of the granting of any permission. Unfortunately it would appear the way planning applications are done in Ireland is that it is better to apply for more than is needed in case something is blocked so that you get a sufficient scale for what was originally looked for.

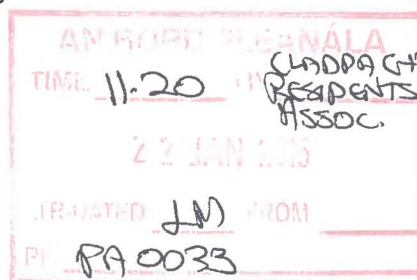
It would have been great to hear in the presentations here over the past week or so that there is a recognition of the flooding concerns of the neighbours and we have identified some methods to put in place to alleviate these but alas we have not.

In conclusion the Claddagh has its own reasons to attract the proposed cruise liners to visit the village and have no wish to compete with Venice.

Thank you for listening and we trust you'll take our concerns on board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Cox', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Cox
Hon Secretary



Jan/Feb 2014



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