

91 St Nicholas Avenue,
Dundalk,
Co. Louth,

Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	077976-25
ABP-	
14 FEB 2025	
Fee: €	50
Type:	cash
Time:	10.39
By:	hand

RE: Case Reference: SU06F.321465 Sandyhill, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin. K67 EW73

I refer to the a/m application and I wish to comment on a number of points.

1. Legal Entity.

It is noted at Annex A that the applicant on the application form is,

"SAINT MARGARETS RECYCLING & TRANSFER CENTRE LIMITED.",

however, according to the Company Registration Office, this company does NOT exist on the register.

There is a company listed as,

"St. Margarets Recycling & Transfer Centre Limited" ,

and this is NOT the name on the application, accordingly the application should be ruled as invalid.

Please see annex B , (2 pages) copy of certificate from CRO as well as company print out

2. Paper Notice.

It is noted in the newspaper notice that the legal entity referred to is Saint Margarets Recycling & Transfer Centre Limited. Again, as mentioned above there is NO such legal entity on the Companies Register and accordingly the public notice is incorrect, and the application should be returned as invalid.

Please see annex C, Copy of Newspaper notice associated with this application.

3. Site Notice.

Site Notices should be easily visible for the public to view, and it is a requirement under the Planning & Development Acts as amended that

"Where the land or structure to which a planning application relates does not adjoin a public road, a site notice shall be erected or fixed in a conspicuous position on the land or structure so as to be easily visible and legible by persons outside the land or structure, and shall not be obscured or concealed at any time."

In this regard, public participation in such an assessment has been substantially impaired.

In this case, it is necessary to trespass onto the facility property in order to view the site notice. This is contrary to the requirements of the Planning Acts and accordingly the application should be ruled as invalid and returned.

Please see annex D. Photo of site notice

4. EIAR.

- a. In reviewing this document it is noted that there is reference to an EIA Screening Report of the site (Patel Tonra 2014) , however I note there is no reference to a report submitted to Final County Council by Boylan Engineering , as part of additional information to F20A/0029 received by FCC, on 01 October 2020 where there is reference to potential contaminated soils . There were also a number of other reports submitted to the Council dealing with land restoration to agricultural lands where there was reference to contaminated soils. There is no indication in the EIAR report as to whether the contaminated soils have been removed or how the soil became contaminated and if future operations would lead to further contamination.
- b. There was an issue with water for fire at this facility in 2018, where there was a substantial fire involving multiple fire engines attending which included some from Dublin Airport, how the runoff was handled, etc. This does NOT appear to have been addressed nor future fire risks.
- c. Fingal County Council raised queries in respect of environmental information required as part of F20A/0029 but was NOT furnished with same . An Bord Pleanála Inspector's report also raised a number of environmental issues concerning, dust, material coming off shredders, after shredder residue fluff,

etc, again these have not been addressed in any of the supporting documentation.

5. Neighbouring Property

It is noted that there is another application before the Board which appears to also be contained in this application. While it is noted that all these lands are owned by the same persons, the applicant in the other application (Petrol Station) is Mr Brian Mc Donnell (Junior) and this has not disclosed in this application . The cumulative effect of these proposed developments has not been considered in the supportive Environmental reports.

For your consideration

Your Faithfully


John Conway

APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANALA FOR SUBSTITUTE CONSENT

BEFORE FILLING OUT THIS FORM PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

Failure to complete this form or attach the necessary documentation, or the submission of incorrect information or omission of required information will lead to the invalidation of your application. Therefore please ensure that each section of this application form is fully completed and signed, entering n/a (not applicable) where appropriate, and that all necessary documentation is attached to the application form.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

It should be noted that each planning authority has its own development plan, which sets out local development policies and objectives for its own area. The authority may therefore need supplementary information (i.e. other than that required in this form) in order to determine whether the application conforms with the development plan and may request this on a supplementary application form.

Failure to supply the supplementary information will not invalidate your planning application but may delay the decision-making process or lead to a refusal of permission. Therefore applicants should contact the relevant planning authority to determine what local policies and objectives would apply to the development proposed and whether additional information is required.

OTHER STATUTORY CODES

An applicant will not be entitled solely by reason of a planning permission to carry out the development. The applicant may need other consents, depending on the type of development. For example, all new buildings, extensions and alterations to, and certain changes of use of existing buildings must comply with building regulations, which set out basic design and construction requirements. Also any works causing the deterioration or destruction of the breeding and resting places of bats, otters, natterjack toads, Kerry slugs and certain marine animals constitute a criminal offence unless covered by a derogation licence issued by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (pursuant to Article 16 of the Habitats Directive).

DATA PROTECTION

It is the responsibility of persons or entities wishing to use any personal data on a planning application form for direct marketing purposes to be satisfied that they may do so legitimately under the requirements of the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003. The Office of the Data Protection Commissioner state that the sending of marketing material to individuals without consent may result in action by the Data Protection Commissioner against the sender including prosecution.

APPLICATION FORM

1. NAME OF RELEVANT PLANNING AUTHORITY

Fingal County Council

2. LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT

Postal Address or Townland or Location (as may best identify the land or structure in question)	Sandyhill, St Margaret's, Co. Dublin. K67 EW73.
Ordnance Survey Map Ref no (and the Grid Reference where available ¹)	713068/743329

3. APPLICANT²:

Name(s)	SAINT MARGARETS RECYCLING & TRANSFER CENTRE LIMITED.
	<i>Address to be supplied at the end of this form (Question 19)</i>

4. WHERE APPLICANT IS A COMPANY (REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACTS):

Name(s) of Company Director(s)	Brian McDonnell Ann McDonnell
Registered Address (of Company)	Sandyhill, St Margaret's, Co. Dublin. K67 EW73.
Company Registration Number	484135

5. PERSON / AGENT ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT (IF ANY)	
Name	Rachel Kenny, of CWPA Ltd.
	Address to be supplied at the end of this form (Question 20)

6. PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARATION OF DRAWINGS AND PLANS ³ :	
Name	Shyamalima Buragohain
Firm / Company	CWPA Ltd.

7. DESCRIPTION OF DEVELOPMENT:	
Brief description of nature and extent of development ⁴	<p>'Substitute Consent for retention of existing works and revised site size and retention and continuation of waste recycling and transfer activities from 2019 to 2023 for tonnages ranging from 26,000 tonnes to 42,500 tonnes, and from 2024 onwards for up to 21,900 tonnes per annum at waste transfer and metal recycling centre at St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin. Accompanied by a, rEIAR and a rNIS' (Full Development Description Appended to this document).</p>

8. LEGAL INTEREST OF APPLICANT IN THE LAND OR STRUCTURE:		
Please tick the box	A. Owner	B. Occupier
	C. Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where legal interest is 'Other' please expand on your interest in the land or structure	<p>The adjacent land is owned by the Applicant, including site of the percolation area and the proposed SUDs measures. The area relating to the existing waste recycling centre is owned by others. A Letter of Consent and a map identifying the portion of land is appended to this document allowing the inclusion of that land in the Application.</p>	

9. SITE AREA:	
Area of site to which the application relates in hectares	c. 2.9 Hectares (relevant developments)

10. WHERE THE APPLICATION RELATES TO A BUILDING OR BUILDINGS:	
Gross floor space ⁵ of existing building(s) in square meters	2,1293sqm
Gross floor space of any demolition in square meters (if appropriate)	n/a

11. IN THE CASE OF MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT (E.G. RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, ETC) PLEASE PROVIDE BREAKDOWN OF THE DIFFERENT CKLASSES OF DEVELOPMENT AND BREAKDOWN OF THE GROSS FLOOR AREA OF EACH CLASS OF DEVELOPMENT:	
Class of Development	Gross floor area in meters

12. IN THE CASE OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PLEASE PROVIDE BREAKDOWN OF RESIDNETIAL MIX:							
Number of	Studio	1 Bed	2 Bed	3 Bed	4 Bed	4+ Bed	Total
Houses							
Apartments							
No. of car-parking spaces to be provided							Total

13. DEVELOPMENT DETAILS:		
Please tick appropriate box	Yes	No
Does the development consist of work to a protected structure and/or its curtilage or proposed protected structure and/or its curtilage?		X

Does the development consist of work to the exterior of a structure which is located within an architectural conservation area (ACA)?		X
Does the application relate to development which affects or is close to a monument or place recorded under section 12 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act, 1994 6?		X
Does the application relate to work within or close to a European Site or a Natural Heritage Area?		X
Does the development require the preparation of a remedial Environmental Impact Statement?	X	
Does the development require the preparation of a remedial Natura impact statement?	X	
Does the application relate to a development which comprises or is for the purposes of an activity requiring an integrated pollution prevention and control licence?		X
Does the application relate to a development which comprises or is for the purposes of an activity requiring a waste licence?	X	
Do the Major Accident Regulations apply to the development?		X
Does the application relate to a development in a Strategic Development Zone?		X
Does the development involve the demolition of any structure?		X

14. SITE HISTORY	
Details regarding site history (if known)	
Has the site in question ever, to your knowledge, been flooded	
Yes []	No [X]
If yes, please give details e.g. year, extent:	
N/A	
Are you aware of previous uses of the site e.g. dumping or quarrying?	
Yes []	No [X]
If yes, please give details: N/A	
Are you aware of any valid planning applications previously made in respect of this land / structure?	
Yes [X]	No []
If yes please state planning reference number(s) and the date(s) of receipt of the planning application(s) by the planning authority if known:	
Ref No.: F97A/0109 Ref. F10A/0177 Ref No.: F03A/1561 Ref. F11A/0272 Ref No.: F03A/1682 Ref. F11A/0443	Ref No.: F05A/0233 Ref.: F13A/0409 Ref.: FW19A/0135 Ref.: FW20A/0029

15. SERVICES:		
Source of Water Supply		
Public mains [X]	Group Water Scheme []	Private Well []
Other (please specify) []		
Name of Group Water Scheme (where applicable):		
Wastewater management / Treatment		
Public Sewer []	Conventional Septic Tank System []	
Other on-site Treatment System [X]	Please specify: Proprietary Waste Water Treatment Plant. 8 PE BAF System.	
Surface Water Disposal		
Public Sewer/Drain []	Soakpit []	
Watercourse [X]	Other [] Please specify	

16. DETAILS OF PUBLIC NOTICE:	
Approved newspaper ⁷ in which notice was published	Irish Daily Star
Date of publication	05/12/2024
Date on which site notice was erected	06/12/2024

17. APPLICATION FEE:	
Fee payable	€23,783.40
Basis of Calculation	<p>The fee calculation is as follows:</p> <p>Buildings - 2,123 sq/m @ €10.80/sq/m (Class 4 retention) = €22,928.40</p> <p>Agri lands – 1.1 Ha @ €30.00/0.1Ha (Class 13 retention) = €330.00</p> <p>Dotted red outline lands – 1.75Ha @ €30.00/0.1Ha (Class 13 retention) = €525.00</p> <p>The overall site area as outlined in Red is 2.96Ha</p> <p>Total: €23,783.40</p>

18. DECLARATION	
I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information given in this form is correct and accurate and fully compliant with the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, and the Regulations made thereunder.	
Signed (Applicant or Agent as appropriate)	Rachel Kenny (applicant's agent)
Date	10/12/2024

CONTACT DETAILS – NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

19. APPLICANT ADDRESS / CONTACT DETAILS:

Address	Sandyhill, St Margaret's, Co. Dublin. K67 F579
Email address	brian@smmr.ie
Telephone number (optional)	

20. AGENT'S (IF ANY) ADDRESS / CONTACT DETAILS:

Address	CWPA Ltd. Unit 10 North Street Business Park Seatown West, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 C992
Email Address	hq@cwpa.ie
Telephone number (optional)	01 6856616
Should all correspondence be sent to the agent's address? Please tick appropriate box. (Please note that if the answer is 'no', all correspondence will be sent to the applicant's address)	
Yes [X]	No []

A contact address must be given, whether that of the applicant or that of the agent.

This form should be accompanied by the following documentation:

Please note that if the appropriate documentation is not included, your application will be deemed invalid.

All Applications:

- The relevant page of newspaper that contains notice of your application
- A copy of the site notice
- 6 copies of site location map
- 6 copies of site or layout plan as appropriate
- 6 copies of plans and other particulars required to describe the works to which the development relates (include detailed drawings of floor plans, elevations and sections) as appropriate.
- The appropriate Fee

Where the disposal of wastewater for the development is other than to a public sewer:

- Information on the on-site treatment system and evidence as to the suitability of the site for the system.

Where the application refers to a protected structure/ proposed protected structure/ or the exterior of a structure which is located within an architectural conservation area (ACA):

- Photographs, plans and other particulars necessary to show how the development affects the character of the structure.

Where an application requires an Environmental Impact Statement or a Natura Impact Statement:

- An Environmental Impact Statement
- A Natura Impact Statement

Directions for completing this form:

1. Grid reference in terms of the Irish Transverse Mercator.
2. "The applicant" means the person seeking the consent, not an agent acting on his or her behalf.
3. Where the plans have been drawn up by a firm/company the name of the person primarily responsible for the preparation of the drawings and plans, on behalf of that firm/company, should be given.
4. A brief description of the nature and extent of the development, including reference to the number and height of buildings, protected structures, etc.
5. Gross floor space means the area ascertained by the internal measurement of the floor space on each floor of a building, that is, floor areas must be measured from inside the external wall.
6. The Record of Monuments and Places, under section 12 of the National Monuments Amendment Act 1994, is available, for each county, in the local authorities and public libraries in that county. Please note also that if the proposed development affects or is close to a national monument which, under the National Monuments Acts 1930 to 2004, is in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht or a local authority, or is the subject of a preservation order or a temporary preservation order, a separate statutory consent is required, under the National Monuments Acts, from the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. For information on whether national monuments are in the ownership or guardianship of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht or a local authority or are the subject of preservation orders, contact the National Monuments Section, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
7. A list of approved newspapers, for the purpose of giving notice of intention to make a planning application, is available from the planning authority.
8. All plans, drawings and maps submitted to the planning authority should be in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2011.

Uimhir 484135

Number 484135

*DEIMHNIÚ CORPRAITHE UM CHOMHSHÓ GO CUIDEACHTA
PHRÍOBHÁIDEACH FAOI THEORAINN SCAIREANNA*

**Certificate of Incorporation
On Conversion To A
Private Company Limited By Shares**

Deimhním leis seo go bhfuil an chuideachta

I hereby certify that

ST. MARGARETS RECYCLING & TRANSFER CENTRE LIMITED

a bhí cláraithe roimhe seo mar Chuideachta Teoranta, tar éis a comhshó inniu cláraithe
faoi Cuid 2 Acht na gCuideachtaí 2014 ina Cuideachta Phríobháideach faoi Theorainn Scaireanna.

**formerly registered as a Limited Company has this day been converted to a
Private Company Limited By Shares, registered under Part 2, Companies Act 2014.**

Arna thabhairt faoi mo láimh,

Given under my hand,

Déardaoin, an 1ú lá de Nollaig, 2016

Thursday, the 1st day of December, 2016

Chláráitheoir na gCuideachtaí

Registrar of Companies

Company Printout

CRO COMPANIES REGISTRY OF IRELAND
AND SUPPLY OF INFORMATION

Company Number	484135		
Company Name	ST. MARGARETS RECYCLING & TRANSFER CENTRE LIMITED		
Company Type	LTD - Private Company Limited by Shares		
Date Incorporated	06/05/2010		
Registered Office	SAINT MARGARETS RECYCLING AND TRANSFER CENTRE LTD ST. MARGARETS RECYCLING AND TRANSFER CENTRE LTD SANDYHILL SAINT MARGARET'S CO. DUBLIN CO. DUBLIN DUBLIN IRELAND		
Designation	Normal		
Date of Designation	06/05/2010		
Last Annual Return	30/09/2023	Next Annual Return	30/09/2024

Register of Particulars of Charges Including Mortgages Pursuant to Sections 409, 411 and 413 of the Companies Act 2014 in Respect of the Above Named Company. Computerised information for charges may be truncated on this print-out, please refer to the company file or images for complete particulars on Charges. It should be noted that charge notifications that are not realised will be rejected and therefore can leave a gap in the sequential numbering of charges.

Number of Registered Charges: 0

Number of Charge Notifications: 0

Charge Details

No Charge Details available

Directors Special Note

Please note that the information displayed on this printout as to the particulars of the directors and secretary of this company may not be complete or up to date, as there may be unregistered documents which affect the position. Please refer to the list of Documents below, and if necessary, consult the company file or images for full, up-to-date particulars as to the company's officers. If this printout is blank as to officer details, please consult the images of the registered New Company documents

BRIAN MC DONNELL

Director

PLANNING

APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANALA FOR SUBSTITUTE CONSENT. We, Saint Margaret's Recycling & Transfer Centre Limited, intend to apply for substitute consent for development at this site, Sandyhill, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin, K67 EW73. Permission is sought for the retention of - (1) Existing buildings, plant and machinery and their use associated with the daily operations of the waste recycling and transfer facility. Existing development includes that previously permitted under Reg. Refs. F13A/0409, F11A/0443, F10A/0177, F03A/1561, F03A/1682 and F97A/0109, and specifically comprises - a. Prefabricated cabins (2no.) 177 sqm, comprising ancillary offices, staff facilities, control room; b. Prefabricated w/c and Steel Container (store) 29 sqm; c. Recycling and transfer industrial buildings 1917 sqm; d. Weighbridge; and e. Machinery comprising hammermill, shredders, balers, titers, forklifts, grabbers, et al. (2) Existing infrastructure, ancillary and enabling works, comprising amendments to site access and boundary arrangements including dust mitigation measures, enhanced access and gateway, above and below ground surface water drainage, proprietary wastewater treatment plant, fire water storage and retention, attenuation and storage tanks, truck and vehicle parking. Works/infrastructure the subject of retention includes those constructed under Reg. Refs. F13A/0409, F11A/0443, F10A/0177, F03A/1561, F03A/1682 and F97A/0109. (3) The enlargement of the site for waste transfer and recycling purposes, including an Authorised Treatment Facility for End-of-Life Vehicles, increasing the site size from 0.6ha (permitted under F97A/0109) to 1.75ha, comprising the area of an enhanced site access and that of the proprietary wastewater treatment system and percolation areas and the 1.5ha associated with the current waste permit and includes the installation of an impermeable reinforced concrete slab surface throughout, and underground surface water drainage system throughout. (4) The historic use (c.2009 to 2023) of lands comprising 1.2 ha to the east of the licensed waste transfer and recycling centre, surfaced with compacted hardcore and used for the temporary storage of vehicles, plant and machinery associated with the waste recycling activity. (5) Historic use of the 1.6 ha of the site, as a waste transfer and recycling centre, in particular during the period 2019 to 2023, where waste throughput at the facility rose from 26,000 to 42,500 tonnes per annum, and which was carried out without the benefit of planning permission. (6) Retention of the on-going use of the existing metal processing and transfer facility with waste throughput at the facility to accept up to 21,900 tonnes per annum (in line with waste permit) for the bulking, transfer and recycling of metals, construction and demolition waste, bulky/skip waste, ballones, wood waste, glass, other non-biodegradable non-hazardous wastes, and an Authorised Treatment Facility for end-of-life vehicles from January 2024 to date of application decision. (7) Existing mitigation measures introduced up to 2023, include - a. Change in operating regime from 1997 permission, to introduce a permanent restriction on acceptance of raw material to licensed waste collectors and trade/construction companies, with associated ban on acceptance of material from members of the public, ban on sale of material to members of the public. b. Enhancement of surface water drainage systems, fire prevention and firewater retention measures, dust suppression, etc. c. Enhancement of access arrangements and maintenance of sightlines at gateway onto the R122 St Margaret's Road in compliance with the appropriate design standards. d. Upgrade of septic tank to proprietary wastewater treatment system. e. Erection of replacement of dust netting as required at site boundaries, where applicable. (8) Proposed Mitigation measures include the restoration of 1.1 ha of compacted hardcore surfaced lands to grassland or wildflower meadow, and to include agricultural haul roads/tracks to serve adjacent agricultural lands, generally in compliance with conditions 3 and 6 of F13A/0409. The application is accompanied by a remedial Environmental Impact Assessment Report and remedial Natura impact statement. Submissions or observations may be made on the application, to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, www.pleanala.ie without charge. Submissions or observations must be in writing and made within the period of 8 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by An Bord Pleanála and such submissions and observations will be considered by An Bord Pleanála in making a decision on the application. An Bord Pleanála may grant the consent subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant it. The application for consent may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of An Bord Pleanála, or Fingal County Council during its public opening hours.

APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANALA FOR SUBSTITUTE CONSENT. We, Saint Margaret's Recycling & Transfer Centre Limited, intend to apply for substitute consent for development at this site, Sandyhill, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin, K67 EW73. Permission is sought for - 1. The on-going use of the existing Waste Recycling and Transfer facility with a proposed waste throughput at the facility to accept up to 21,900 tonnes per annum (in line with waste permit) for the bulking, transfer and recycling of metals, construction and demolition waste, bulky/skip waste, ballones, wood waste, glass, other non-biodegradable non-hazardous wastes, and an Authorised Treatment Facility for end-of-life vehicles. 2. A new underground surface water attenuation tank comprising c.675 cubic metres, and a new above ground overflow connected to same comprising 1500 sqm. 3. Enhancements of car parking provision, including installation of 2no. EV charging point and bicycle parking. 4. Alterations to site boundary arrangements, including replacement of existing internal boundary comprising stacked steel containers with 3m high concrete panel and steel post wall, and augmentation of dust netting where applicable, and 5. Revisions to the site area, such that the site will comprise c.1.75 ha subject of the retention application and an additional 2.816sqm which will comprise the proposed surface water attenuation tank and basin (noted above at item 2). The application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura impact statement. Submissions or observations may be made on the application, to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, www.pleanala.ie without charge. Submissions or observations must be in writing and made within the period of 8 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the application by An Bord Pleanála and such submissions and observations will be considered by An Bord Pleanála in making a decision on the application. An Bord Pleanála may grant the consent subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant it. The application for consent may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of An Bord Pleanála, or Fingal County Council during its public opening hours.

RACING

HILL BACK ON TRACK

Henderson happy with Constitution

BY DAVID YATES
CONSTITUTION HILL is "absolutely 100 per cent" after the setback that ruled him out of the Fighting Fifth Hurdle at Newcastle last Saturday.

Nicky Henderson's star, whose unbeaten run of eight includes a victory in the 2023 Champion Hurdle, was last seen when landing the Grade One Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park last Boxing Day, having been ruled out of his title defence at Cheltenham by a virus.

A comeback at Gosforth Park was shelved after Constitution Hill suffered from lameness - vets diagnosed bruising in a pastern - in the wake of a lacklustre gallop at Newbury 11 days before his planned return.

The setback threatened to rule out a bid for a Christmas Hurdle hat-trick, but Henderson reported yesterday: "He's coming along well."

"He wasn't hopping lame - he was lame for a couple of days after that gallop - but he's absolutely 100 per cent now."

"We're getting there - he's going to have a gallop at the weekend," added the Seven Barrows trainer, whose seven-year-old is William Hill's 7-2 second favourite to get his Champion Hurdle crown back.

In Constitution Hill's absence, Sir Gino was re-routed from an intended chase debut to post an impressive Fighting Fifth Hurdle success.

But Henderson and Sir Gino's owners, Joe and Marie Donnelly, have yet to reach a decision as to whether last season's top juvenile hurdler will stay over timber or tackle fences.



RARING TO GO
Constitution Hill is over his recent setback



CHANCE Quilixios trainer Henry de Bromhead

Quilixios is Sizing up well

BY MOLLY HUNTER

THIRTEEN years on from the success of the hugely popular Sizing Europe, Quilixios will bid to provide Henry de Bromhead with a second victory in the Betfair Tingle Creek on Saturday. Sizing Europe was the reigning Queen Mother Champion Chase hero when justifying favouritism at Sandown in 2013.

And while Quilixios has not yet managed to scale those heights over fences, he could hardly have been more impressive on his reappearance at Naas last month.

The 2021 Triumph Hurdle winner missed the entirety of the 2022/23 campaign through injury and results were mixed after his return last season, with wins at Limerick and Naas followed by disappointing efforts in the Arkle at Cheltenham and a Grade One at Aintree.

However, he showed his true colours when leading Marina Nationale a merry dance in the Grade Three Barberston Castle Chase in early November, teasing him up perfectly for this weekend's feature event.

"He seems in great form and we're looking forward to going over," De Bromhead said on Tuesday.

"He's got good form on everything. I was probably a little bit concerned about the better ground at Naas the other day, but he seemed to handle that really well, and he won a good race at Naas back in January on very testing ground, so I think he's pretty adaptable."

"We've got to keep all options open as far as everybody's concerned, I'm afraid - that's the only way," said Henderson.

Meanwhile, Jonbon will face a maximum of seven rivals when he bids for back-to-back victories in the Betfair Tingle Creek at Sandown on Saturday.

Nicky Henderson's star chaser was a decisive winner of the Grade One contest 12 months ago and will be a warm order to successfully defend his title after winning Cheltenham's Shloer Chase for the second successive season in mid-November.

He is likely to renew rivalry with the runner-up in that Grade Two contest, Harry Fry's Boothill, as well as the third-placed Edwardstone, who claimed the

2022 Tingle Creek for Alan King and finished best of the rest behind Jonbon last term.

Henry de Bromhead's Quilixios is a major contender from Ireland after comfortably beating Marine Nationale on his reappearance at Naas, while Joseph O'Brien could send Solness.

Joe Tizzard's Haldon Gold Cup hero JPR One, Dan Skelton's Unexpected Party and the Nigel Twiston-Davies-trained Master Chewy complete the potential field, with the latter expected to improve for his comeback run when fourth in a valuable handicap at Ascot a month ago.

SANDOWN PARK is "on weather watch" as a result of an unsettled forecast for the Tingle Creek Chase card.

DUNNE NAMED DRIVER OF THE YEAR

BY JOHN KENNY

ALEX DUNNE has been named as the Motorsport Ireland Press International Driver of the Year for 2024 at the Champions Awards lunch in Dublin.

The 18-year-old from Offaly has been one of Ireland's fastest-rising single-seater racing sports stars over the last few years and is currently part of the McLaren F1 Driver Development Programme.

Dunne has been competing in selected rounds of the FIA International Formula 3 (F3) series in 2024 as he looks to move eventually to the very pinnacle of his sport: Formula One.

Starting karting at the age of 12, the now 18-year-old had 16 race wins across the British, UAE and Italian Formula 4 Championships while racing for Hitech Grand Prix and US Racing.

That form saw Dunne (inset) crowned the 2022 British F4 Champion and Italian F4 Championship vice-champion.

The 2023 campaign saw Dunne as vice-champion in the GB3 Championship with five victories and eight podiums.

In 2024, he was signed up by MP Motorsport to take part in the FIA Formula 3 Championship

alongside two Red Bull starlets, Kacper Sztuka and Tim Tramnitz.

Dunne will continue his development into 2025 with the support of the McLaren Driver Development Programme.

Meanwhile, Wicklow's Max Hart won the Sexton Trophy as the Young Irish Racing Driver of the Year.

Hart took part in the Saloon World TCR series as part of his career progression, which has taken him from his first steps in karting through to the British TCR Championship and on to Asia, where he has raced since the

beginning of 2023.

For the 2024 season, Max signed with the Z-Speed Hyundai team in TCR Asia. History was made in November when he competed in the FIA World Touring Car Championship at the Macau Grand Prix in China.

The 23-year-old Wicklow native became the first driver from Ireland to compete in the TCR World Championship and is part of the Hyundai Driver Programme.

"Racing in FIA World TCR was a dream come true for me," said Hart.

Craig Rahill was also named the Young Rally Driver of the Year.



Figure 1 : Entrance to Facility



