

Patricia Healy

From: Helena MCGovern
Sent: 30 April 2024 10:05
To: planning
Subject: Submission re flood works Drumhierney Leitrim village

FAO Senior Executive Planner

Re: Part 8 Flood defense works at Drumhierny and Leitrim Townlands, Leitrim Village, Co Leitrim. The provision of flood defense works involving the construction of a flood defense berm, the creation of a controlled drainage culvert and ancillary works at lands adjacent to the R284 Regional road (Keadue Road).

I would like to submit my objection to the above works due to the potential impact that this will have on my own property which is located in Drumhierney Manor.

Firstly there was no consultation with the adjacent residents during the application stage of these works nor was there any correspondence prior to works commencing. We, the residents of Drumhierney, Woodville and Keadue Road only found out about said works once they had commenced and were at sandbag stage as we all just assumed that the County Council were doing essential, overdue drain Maintenance.

Numerous residents contacted Shay O'Connor in January outlining their concerns once the builders advised us of the plans. We also contacted local TDs'/Councilors. We were told on numerous occasions that the work would be paused and Shay also advised same at a municipal meeting and yet continued with works even though the valid concerns were raised and there was no planning permission.

We were advised by Shay O'Connor in person at a residential meeting regarding concerns in January.

Numerous promises were made namely:

Hedging that was torn down and the boundary between the field and the green on the housing estate would be reinstated.

The council would raise the sewage tank above the flood level to prevent raw sewage flowing in estate as electrics won't work if sewage tank floods.

The pump to protect the houses would only be turned on when the 2 homes which previously flooded in 2009 were at risk not before then.

Residents would be brought in to council offices and shown the design and shown how the defense would work.

The council would take over the management of lighting and sewage in Drumhierney Manor

The council did not do any of the above and indeed information received under freedom of information is full of misinformation including that 12 houses flooded in Cluain Oir. This is simply not the case.

As stated in my original letter it is moving the problem to another estate. I also find it strange that these houses flooded in 2009 and only now is this work commencing. Can you confirm that the Drumhierney Hideaway sewage is now linked to the Cluain Oir estate? And is this suddenly the reason for these works?

If water levels rise Drumhierney manor residents will have raw sewage on the estate and currently the council have no responsibility for same. This is a health and safety concern as well as an environmental one. Raw sewage will eventually end up in the Shannon. How come it was not deemed necessary for an environmental assessment to be carried out. At the very least before any additional work is carried out an environmental assessment risk should be completed.

Houses have devalued in the estate foundations and gardens are apparently 'not important'. And the council are not in the 'business of protecting' same. This is absolutely ridiculous the houses at the lower part of the estate will be destabilised and sink if constantly under water and how can residents sell these houses. This is again a problem currently in Cluain Oir that we will now inherit.

Finally the way the council have left boundary between the estate and field is a disgrace. For obvious safety reasons and visually. Young children of which there are many along with young visitors to the estate can easily access the field. Due to their natural curiosity they will often head directly to said field. The field is extremely wet and kids can easily sink it has already happened that a child has got stuck in there. If an accident occurs ye have been made aware and will be held responsible. There was previously a fence many trees and we had some privacy. We are totally exposed now and if you look at the original planning permission this was a planted area so please replant and put a fence back up. If a flood occurs will it not flow directly into the green area on the estate.

For these reasons I am totally opposed to the planning permission and hence the submission.

Kind regards
Helena & Darren Hayes

Please respond to email and confirm that the Council have received this submission.