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THE REPRESENTATIVE, PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT FEDERATION  
SERVING THE CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING MOVEMENT IN IRELAND

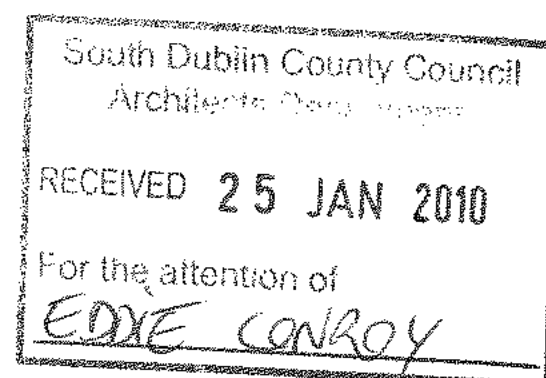
NABCO

Mr. Eddie Conroy,  
County Architect,  
South Dublin County Council,  
County Hall,  
Tallaght,  
Dublin 24.

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010

Dear Mr. Conroy,

**Re: Community Facility at 108 Donomore Park, Killinarden**



Further to your letter (undated) received on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010, I wish to advise that the Association, over a period of several years, tried with local co-operative members to achieve the utilisation of the communal welfare facility at Donomore Park, free from disturbance and vandalism. This included making the facility available for other community users but some problems also arose with such usage.

I have been present at meetings in the building myself, in the past, while efforts were having to be made to prevent disturbance and interference with the door entrance.

Experience has indicated that, regrettably, even with substantial expenditure on increased security, more repairs and even coping with attempts to set fire to the building and the consequential damage, the conclusion has been for some time that the building in its present form is not reasonably usable for the purpose intended. In addition, there is the awareness that adjoining member/residents suffer nuisance and disturbance from behaviour at the building or in the vicinity.

The Association has sought to achieve effective consultations with the County Council's planning department with some limited progress but regrets to note that a design proposal prepared to replace the existing building with houses and a smaller more secluded communal facility needed for estate management purposes was apparently not supported by the architectural services department last year.

However, a revised proposal for houses, following some consultation with the district co-operative society management board, which includes representatives of the member residents who expressed concern at the need for some management meeting space, further design proposals have been prepared. These will require planning permission and, therefore, it is not possible without the co-operation of the County Council and the timing of the statutory procedures to give an accurate timetable at this stage.

However, the Association wishes to proceed with a formal application for planning permission to replace the existing building without further delay, just as soon as the necessary revised design plans suitable for submission of the application have been completed.

The primary objective in the decision proposal is to remove the existing building as an apparent target for vandalism and nuisance and to replace it with an infill design for houses and a smaller estate management meeting room which "knits in" to the existing housing elevation layout and with front boundaries etc. creating a sense of private use as distinct from a public communal area.

I understand that the Association's consultant architect intends to forward the latest revised design proposal to the County Council's architectural services department but, frankly, the view of the Association is to formally proceed with an application for planning permission in order to deal with the decision making required for progressing this matter.

Yours sincerely,



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Bernard Thompson  
Chief Executive Officer