

Partnership Court, Park Street,  
Dundalk, Co Louth  
(041) 9876800

editorial@drogheda-independent.ie  
advertising@drogheda-independent.ie

## Editorial



**John Mulligan**

jmuligan@drogheda-independent.ie  
042 9334632



comhairle chontae na mi  
meath county council

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA FOR APPROVAL

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A TOWN PARK AT NINCH, LAYTOWN, COUNTY MEATH.

Pursuant to Section 177AE of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2022 and the requirements of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2023 notice is hereby given that Meath County Council intends to make an application for approval to An Bord Pleanála to carry out development in the townland of Ninch, Laytown, Co Meath.

The proposed development of a Town Park comprises of the following:

1. the creation of formal and informal play spaces;
2. the provision of new pathways and improvement of existing pathways including a new pedestrian road crossing and a boardwalk over the dunes;
3. the creation of an open space for flexible-use (events, gathering, markets, leisure, informal sport games); and
4. all associated and ancillary site works associated with the proposed development including landscaping, signage and street furniture.

A Natura Impact Statement has been prepared in respect of the proposed development.

An Bord Pleanála may approve the proposed development in whole or in part, with or without specified modifications, or it may refuse to approve the proposed development.

The Natura Impact Statement together with all Plans and Particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection free of charge or may be purchased on payment of a small fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such a copy) during public opening hours within the period 3 July 2023 to 16 August 2023, inclusive, at the following locations:

- An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1
- Meath County Council, Buvinda House, Dublin Rd, Navan, Co Meath, C15Y291
- Meath County Council, Main Street, Duleek, Co Meath, A92 CR33
- Online at: <https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/planning-and-building>

Submissions and observations are invited relating to –

- 1) the implications of the proposed development for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area concerned;
- 2) the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development; and
- 3) the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European site, if carried out.

Submissions or observations can only be made in writing to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, not later than 5.30pm on 16 August 2023.

All submissions must be labelled with the following project name: Meath County Council Laytown Park Project, Ninch, Laytown, Co Meath.

A person may question the validity of a decision by An Bord Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No.15 of 1986) in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act 2000-2022. Practical information in respect of the judicial review process can be accessed on [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie) or [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie).

Signed: Barry Lynch, Director of Services,  
Meath County Council.

Dated: 3 July 2023.

[www.meath.ie](http://www.meath.ie)

# Parents thank hospital after Barbara (8) survives

## COURAGEOUS GIRL MOMENTS FROM DEATH AFTER STREP A INFECTION

BY ALISON COMYN

A couple from Drogheda has thanked the staff of the Lourdes Hospital for saving their little daughter's life, and their entire community for supporting the family in the difficult aftermath.

Agnieszka and Piotr Data almost lost their eight-year-old daughter Barbara to septic shock last month, and even though she still faces the risk of losing her limbs, they are grateful she is alive and full of fighting spirit.

"We were so close to losing her, but she is alive for us and after being told so many times to say goodbye to her, it is like a miracle," says Agnieszka. "Her organs got back to normal, her heart is ok, her brain is ok, and even though she had a stroke, she can see, she can hear, she can talk, her memory is ok, she can move her limbs. We can see our old self Barbara coming back day by day".

It was on Saturday May 13th that Barbara went into septic shock due to a Strep A infection.

"It all happened so quickly," explains her mum. "On Thursday May 11th, Barbara had a sore throat, on Friday she had a fever and a cough, and we were reassured by a GP that it is all caused by a virus and there is no need for antibiotics.

"On Saturday she could not breathe, she was very weak, her lips were turning blue, and we took her to the Emergency Department in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Drogheda.

"She was then minutes from death and doctors said they have never seen such an ill child. Many of her organs collapsed, including lungs because they were taken by pneumonia, and she was urgently transferred from Drogheda Hospital to Temple Street Hospital, the moment they came in, she had a cardiac arrest but thankfully she was brought back to life".

The fight for little Barbara's life lasted for another 48 hours in Temple Street ICU, until her parents were told there are not many chances for her in Dublin and she needs to be transferred to Sweden.

Karolinska University Hospital in Solna, Stockholm is one of the best hospitals in the world for ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) treatment in and they treat many cases like Barbara's not



Barbara will still most likely lose parts of her fingers and toes following sepsis.

only from Ireland but from all over the world.

"It was a tough decision because this treatment posed lots of risks, but we wanted to try everything to keep our Barbara alive. Many times during these few days we were told to say goodbye, it was such a horrible time for us," says Agnieszka "I was also encouraged to take some hair from Barbara as a keepsake; that was the toughest part, but she was so critically ill that the chances for her were very slim."

The treatment in Sweden is expensive but thankfully for the family it was all covered by the HSE.

"After seven days, her lungs started to work on her own, she slowly started to get better,

and she was woken up from her sedation which lasted almost 14 days," she says. "On May 30th, we were told we could bring her home and it was such a relief for us, not to leave her again and be able to come back home together."

She says this is when the community spirit in Drogheda really kicked in!

"Our neighbors and their families offered their time to take us to hospital, to help us with normal things like bringing shopping home, and while we were busy in hospital, minding our other children," says Agnieszka. "Staff in Barbara's school (St Brigid's and St. Patrick NS Drogheda) are also so amazing. They come to us every morning to take our

older children to school and they bring them back home in the afternoon.

"Teachers, principals and their families make a weekly rota and they bring us every day to Temple Street - we change every 24 hours; one of us stays in the hospital and the other one comes back home, to spend time with our other children who miss their sister dearly".

Barbara is improving but is not out of the woods yet, as there is a risk her arms and legs have received too much damage. "Her organs are back to normal, but she may lose some parts of her feet and hands. Some parts are necrotic, and they need to be amputated and we were told she will not be walking," says Agnieszka emotionally. "We just