

NEWS

Stables Live At The Showgrounds a day before Fleadh Cheoil 2022

MULLINGAR music venue The Stables is hosting Ireland's newest one-day festival in The Showgrounds the day before the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann starts.

Damien Dempsey and the Hothouse Flowers are the headline acts at The Stables Live At The Showgrounds on July 30, along with alternative folk band, Moxie, fiddler and bilingual singer Clare Sands, and local performers Paulie Martin, Ballynacargy singer songwriter Luke Price and Mullingar's Cian Thomas.

Event producer, Erhan Scally, says the line-up aims to complement the fleadh. "We really want to kick-start that week with a big event. We think the line-up, Irish trad rock, is in a similar vein to the vibe and the atmosphere that is going to be in Mullingar for the week of the fleadh. It's a deadly line-up and we just want to kick-start a brilliant week for the town."

"There are some die-hard traditional music fans who might think that Damien Dempsey and the Hothouse Flowers are too commercial, even though I wouldn't see



Damien Dempsey will star at The Stables Live at The Showgrounds on Saturday July 30.

them that way, but we think this line-up complements [the fleadh]. The Hothouse Flowers - their music is Irish and traditional.

"Clare Sands is fiddle, banjo, guitar. She also has a bit of a movement. She has a track called the Awe na Mna. She has been making music videos on the beach with gatherings of people. It has been almost spiritual but community based as well. It taps in to the communal aspect of the fleadh, which is bringing people together."

"I think the bands in our line-up, although it isn't absolute raw trad, are based around instruments used in

trad music: guitar, bodhrán, flute, fiddle. That instrumentation is evident in Damien Dempsey's music, in The Hothouse Flowers, in Clare Sands and in Moxie, as well.

"I really think that we have a really nice blend of modern and more sophisticated Irish traditional folk rock kind of music."

"It mightn't be to the taste of all of the people coming into Mullingar for the fleadh, but I think there will be a good crossover with some of the fleadh crowd and then all of the people in Mullingar who might not necessarily be die-hard fleadh fans. I think it is a great event for them as well."

"We had a sold-out event last year [headlined by Aslan] with 500 people. That capacity was limited due to coronavirus restrictions but this year we don't have that. The event should also be more free flowing. People won't be restricted in anyway. It's going to be a bigger and better event without any restrictions. It's going to be great for Mullingar."

Tickets at €55.95 includes a shuttle bus to and from the gig. See thestableslive.com.

An Bord Pleanála approves Ballinea equine proposal

AN Bord Pleanála has upheld a decision by Westmeath County Council allowing a bloodstock firm erect 64 stables on lands at Ballynaclyn, Ballinea, 4km outside Mullingar on the Ballymahon Road.

Westmeath County Council granted permission for the development in August 2021 to Aguiar Bloodstock Ltd, c/o Plandai Design of Killeelan, Athboy, but that decision was appealed by Michael Lynn and Pat Lynn, both of Ballyvote.

The application was for the right to construct two stable blocks, each containing 32 stables, a tack room and feed store/handling areas. Also granted permission is development of an eight-bay horse walker, two horse lunge rings and manure storage area. The applicants have also received permission to develop a cross-country gallop.

The objection by Pat Lynn was on a number of grounds. He was concerned over the impact of the development on water supplies to the area, and also contended that the gallops have been constructed

beside the grounds of Ballyvote Church, which contains the grave of Fr Meade and which is a place of reflection.

Mr Lynn also argued that the size of the landholding was insufficient for the size of the development.

Michael Lynn was also concerned about the impact on water supplies to residents in the area.

He also argued that the site is prone to flooding and that the site was incapable of accommodating the number of animals proposed.

Further concerns listed by Mr Lynn related to noise; and the impact on the visual amenity of the area.

Responding to the objections, Aguiar Bloodstock stated that they purchased the land in good faith, not realising there was a dispute between the Lynn family and the previous owner - a sister-in-law.

"The applicants own the land and the house now and wish to develop a breeding station, with employment of up to 12 persons," Aguiar's response stated.


It went on to state that Aguiar is owned by two brothers who have for 20 years been operating in the equine breeding industry.

Aguiar stated that the OPW maps do not indicate any flood risk and the buildings proposed are at the elevated end of the site and would be well above any localised flooding.

Water supply concerns should be raised with Irish Water, the firm stated before going on to argue that there was adequate space on site for the activities planned and that the development will not have a negative impact on the visual amenities of the area.

The An Bord Pleanála inspector agreed that the water supply issue was a matter for Irish Water, and also found that the subject site was not located in a flood plain and that the development would not result in a material change to the current ambient noise levels.

The inspector recommended that the development be allowed to proceed subject to conditions.


WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL
Comhairle Contae na Bliainne

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 AS AMENDED (PART XI)
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 – 2022 (PART 8)
DEVELOPMENT OF 15 NO. SINGLE STOREY DWELLING UNITS
CONSISTING OF 13 NO. 2-BED UNITS AND 2 NO. 1-BED UNITS AT
ENNELL COURT AND TRINITY COTTAGES, MULLINGAR TOWNLAND,
MULLINGAR, COUNTY WESTMEATH

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the requirements of the above Act and Regulations, that Westmeath County Council proposes to undertake the following development:

To construct 15 no. Single Storey houses on four separate sites and all associated site development works to include new vehicular road access between Hawthorn Crescent and Trinity Cottages, roads, footpaths, site services, boundary walls, cut and fill of ground, public lighting, attenuation and landscaping.

The development has been the subject of an Appropriate Assessment screening in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and the Planning and Development Acts 2000 as amended.

Plans and Particulars of the proposed development are available for inspection at <https://consult.westmeathcoco.ie/en> and can be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Municipal District of Mullingar-Kinnegad, Westmeath County Council, Aras An Chontae, Mount Street, Mullingar, N91 FH4N from 9.30a.m. to 4.00p.m. each day, excluding weekends and Bank Holidays, from **Wednesday 18th of May 2022 to Tuesday 21st of June 2022.**

Submissions and observations with respect to the proposed development may be made via the Council's Consultation Portal at <https://consult.westmeathcoco.ie/en> or a written submission or observations in relation to the proposed development, may also be submitted to District Manager, Mullingar-Kinnegad Municipal District, Westmeath County Council, Aras An Chontae, Mount Street, Mullingar, N91 FH4N to arrive not later than **4.00pm on Tuesday 5th of July 2022.**

Written submissions or observations received will form part of a statutory report to be presented to a meeting of Westmeath County Council and will form part of a public document. The information contained in submissions may be available for public inspection, to be published on the Council's website and available at the Council's public counter. Details, including the names of those making submissions may be shared with relevant Council Departments or their agents involved in this Part 8 process.

Niall Horan's Mullingar mansion up for sale

NIALL Horan has put his Mullingar mansion up for sale. According to Daft.ie, the six-bedroom, six-bathroom pile in Gaybrook is on the market for a cool €775,000, almost €300,000 more than the former One Direction man paid for it in December 2016.

In an interview with GQ in 2020, Niall said that he spends his time between south London and LA and bought the Gaybrook house, Il Sogno, for his mother Maura and stayed there when he came home.

In the posting on Daft.ie, Murphy Gubbins Auctioneers says that "this impressive residence provides a delightful opportunity to enjoy peaceful, private countryside living".

"The property is presented in turnkey condition and provides generous living space with well-proportioned rooms throughout. It enjoys an abundance of bright and spacious



The house that Niall Horan owns in Gaybrook.

reception rooms at ground floor including a games room with a built in bar and there are 6 generous bedrooms at first floor, the majority of which are en-suite.

"Many of the reception rooms enjoy direct access to the surrounding patio area, while a selection of the bedrooms feature Juliet balconies. This truly is an outstanding family home. Externally the property includes just over 10

acres of land with block built sheds, a timber workshop, a hen house and a westerly facing patio area.

"There are electric gates and stone walls to the front. The current owners recently installed new windows and external doors throughout as well as a new boiler along with stoves in all of the reception rooms. All bathrooms were also recently refurbished."