

Memorial is 'in a state', Sinn Féin

By MIKE DWANE

SINN Féin has hit out at the City Council over the "deplorable" state of the 1916 memorial at Sarsfield Bridge.

The party's Limerick chairman and general election candidate Maurice Quinlivan acknowledges that while weeding work has been carried out, the monument remains in "a shocking state of disrepair."

The party wants the memorial cleaned and repaired and Mr Quinlivan said he had contacted city manager Tom Mackey on

the matter late last year.

"I wrote to the City Manager last December and set out in some detail the deplorable state of the memorial and asked that something be done about it in order to make it more attractive to local citizens and visitors alike in the run up to the 90th anniversary of the Easter Rising," he explained.

"However, apart from some weeding around the base of the memorial, my appeal seems to have fallen on deaf ears."

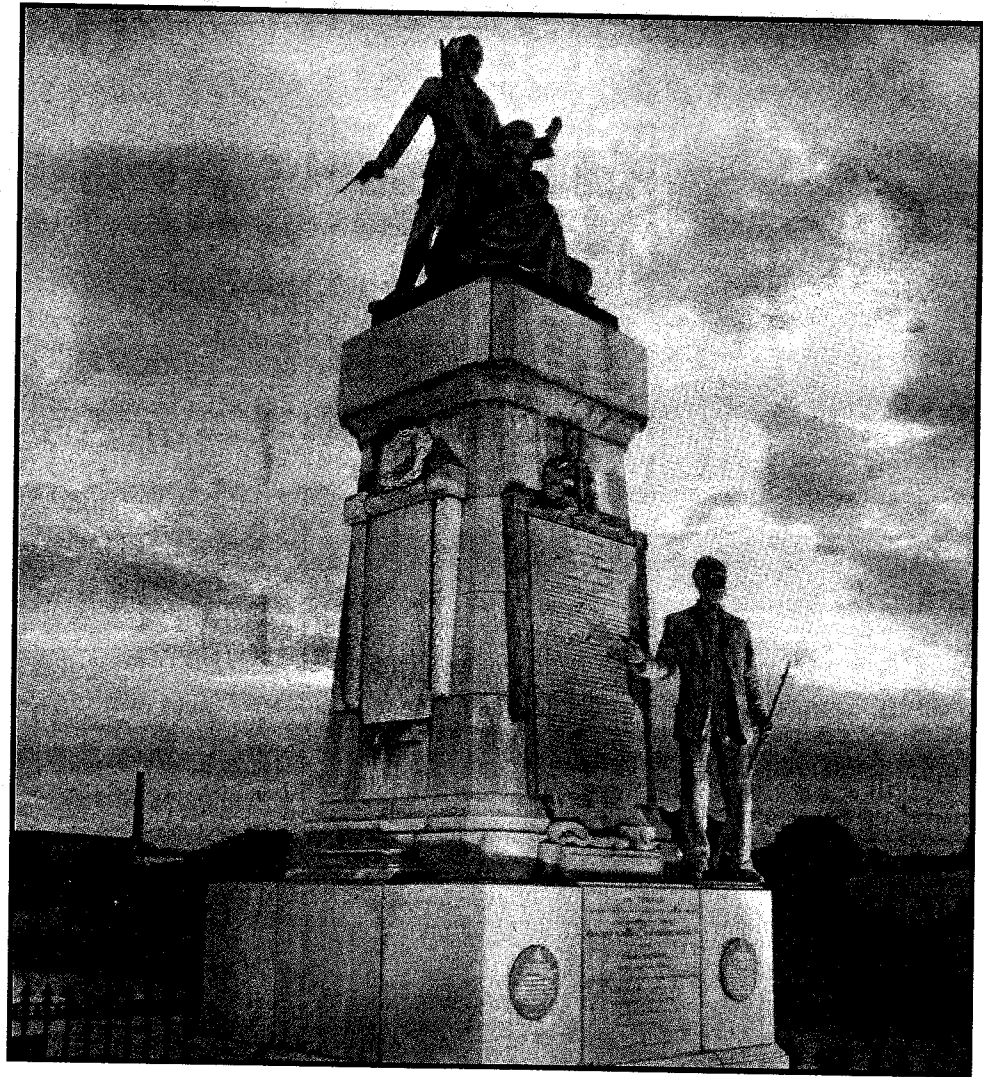
"This," Mr Quinlivan continued, "is one of the finest memorials of its kind in the country and it is disgraceful that it has been allowed to fall into its present shocking

state of disrepair."

"This is particularly so given the State's much vaunted new interest in the Rising and all things associated with our Republican history. In any other country such a memorial would be treated with respect and pride and kept in a fitting state of repair."

"It is not too late for something to be done and Sinn Féin are calling on the city authorities to ensure that the necessary repair work is carried out to properly restore this fine memorial before this anniversary year is over," Mr Quinlivan concluded.

Meanwhile, the party will hold its annual 1916 commemoration at 12.30 on



The 1916 memorial at Sarsfield Bridge

Easter Sunday, meeting at the Munster Fair Tavern.

Mr Quinlivan said the party had accepted the Government's invitation to attend the State commemoration in Dublin. Barbara de Brún MEP and Deputies

Arthur Morgan and Sean Crowe are expected to attend but Mr Quinlivan added it was up to individual party members whether they wished to participate.

Two Limerick men were executed for their part in

the Easter Rising in 1916—Con Colbert from Athea and Ned Daly from the city. Dublin-born Sean Heuston, also executed, worked as a clerk in Limerick railway station and headed up Na Fianna Éireann in the city.