

have been held between the disputing parties.

The Irish Nurses Organisation (INO) and Psychiatric Nurses Association (PSA) voted overwhelmingly in favour of industrial action and served notice on the HSE two weeks ago. They want their working week to be reduced from 39 to 35 hours a week, and for pay "anomalies" to be addressed.

Limerick-based PNA National Chairman Liam McNamara confirmed that no progress on the dispute has been made in the last two weeks.

"As of yet, there have been no attempts to talk to us about the issues,

going to wait until the 11th hour, we just do not know," he said.

The Limerick Leader has learned that this Thursday representatives of health care management, INO and PNA are due to go to the Labour Relations Commission to discuss emergency cover during the industrial action.

The dispute centres on the nurses demands that the 39-hour week be cut, currently nurses are the only health care workers in the public sector working more than 35 hours a week.

The nurses are also disputing the fact that social

Junior Minister O'Malley, she would not be pleased. We are looking for an increase of 10.6 per cent to bring us back to where we should be," he said.

The PNO and INA in Limerick will meet Minister for Defence Willie O'Dea this Friday.

Industrial action is scheduled to begin for one hour on Friday, March 2, outside Limerick Regional Hospital.

"This is not going to go away. These issues have been around for years, and must be addressed," said Mr Mc Namara.



Damian Jared and Jamie Harris at the unvailing of their father Richard Harris' statue in Kilkee last year

Harris statue move given green light

By OWEN RYAN

AN BORD Pleanala have given permission to relocate a statue of Richard Harris to its original planned site at Wellington Square in Kilkee.

Clare County Council had granted permission for the statue of the celebrated Limerick actor, but following objections to An Bord Pleanala, it had to be relocated before being unveiled by Russell Crowe last September.

The statue shows Harris playing racketball in which he was Kilkee champion for four years running.

An Bord Pleanala found that the statue would not impact on the character or integrity of the area, would not detract from the visual amenities of the area or the residential amenities of adjoining properties, and would be acceptable in terms of

traffic safety and convenience.

An Taisce had voiced concerns that the statue would be damaged at the proposed location, but An Bord Pleanala found that this would not be the case.

"An Taisce's concerns with regard to the impacts of the marine environment on the statue are unfounded as bronze does not become oxidised and turn blue / green in the same manner as copper," the board's inspector, Breda Gannon, found.

Ms Gannon also found that the location for the statue was apt, given Harris's sporting background.

"I accept, given the large promenade and cliff walks in the area, that there are many numerous alternative locations available in Kilkee for the proposed statue. The appeal site was chosen on the basis of its proximity to where Richard Harris

played racketball.

"The statue depicts Richard Harris in a pose associated with racketball and I note from the planning officer's report that the racketball courts are located at the base of the wall opposite the site. The justification for the location of the statue on this site would, therefore, appear to be entirely reasonable," she said.

A condition imposed by An Bord Pleanala was that any proposal to illuminate the statue would be subject to a separate grant of planning permission.

Richard Harris was a popular figure in the West Clare town having spent much of his free time there. The hell-raising actor was twice nominated for Oscars and won acclaim for his performances in *This Sporting Life* and *The Field*, in which he played the part of Bull McCabe.

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