

Please give us our track, plead greyhound fans

ADRIAN Noonan, recently appointed chief executive officer of Bord na gCon, is likely to come under pressure from greyhound enthusiasts in the mid west to ensure that Limerick finally procures its much delayed state-of-the-art greyhound stadium at Coonagh.

The county Limerick based CEO, a native of Ardfert, county Kerry, slots into the position held by Aidan Tynan, who controversially departed from the role last year.

Almost 12 months ago, then chairman of Bord na gCon Paschal Taggart, told almost 300 greyhound owners, trainers and supporters at Castletroy Park Hotel, that Limerick would have its stadium unveiled in 2008.

But this week, an



Being home to Greyhound racing since 1932, fans hope that the sport is moved from the Markets field to the new venue proposed at Coonagh as soon as possible.

Plan to stop wild-child benefit 'flawed'

A PLAN by Fine Gael to stop child benefit as a means of combating anti social behaviour by "wild children" has been condemned by Cllr Noreen Ryan, who says it hits out at already hard pressed women.

The Fianna Fail councillor said that "this lat-

what they call 'wild children' is a simplistic knee jerk reaction to a complicated social problem" "This policy would hit women the hardest because women largely depend on child benefit payments to provide for their families. Like it or not, child benefit is seen

mothers except in exceptional cases. Any proposal to stop such payments because of the behaviour of children will hit women financially. For many women this income is the only money over which they have control. And in this case, the Fine Gael big

and imaginative methods of curbing the problem of antisocial behaviour.

"If Fine Gael and their MEP Jim Higgins who advocate this approach think that by penalising mothers they will solve the problem of what they describe as 'wild chil-

insider conceded to the Limerick Post that 2009-2010 was now the most likely opening date.

"If we do get permission from the planning authorities to proceed, it will take at least 18 months to two years to build", he said.

LIMERICK TRAVEL

The 20 million euro proposed stadium, to be sited near the Two Mile Inn Hotel, has been hit with planning delay hitches.

Bord na gCon have submitted revised plans to Clare County Council and are awaiting a response.

There had been objections to their earlier submissions.

"D-Day looms and let's hope for positive news. If there are further problems, it is difficult to say what's ahead".

continued the insider.

Those associated with the greyhound industry are becoming more and more frustrated that little appears to be happen-

ing.

The campaign for a new track in Limerick started over a decade ago. At one stage it was proposed to redevelop the Markets Field, which has been the home of greyhound racing in the mid west since 1932,

but there was little support. Limerick is now the least patron friendly of all tracks in Ireland.

The Bord has invested substantial amounts of money in attempts to improve facilities there, but these were seen as short term.

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