

**COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

**BLANCHARDSTOWN-MULHUDDART/CASTLEKNOCK/ONGAR
AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
(Services A – Operational Matters)**

THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2026

ITEM NO. 25

INSTALLATION OF GATES – MICK WALSH PARK - AI109611

Motion: Councillor B. Hanaphy

“That the Chief Executive installs a gate at the entrance to Mick Walsh Park to prevent the misuse of the car park and dumping of cars and other material.”

Report:

Historically there was a vehicle barrier installed at Mick Walsh Park. This was removed in early 2024 to allow unrestricted access for the public to Mick Walsh Park. When the gate was in place it only allowed the club utilise the car parking facility.

Removing the barrier allowed for more passive surveillance throughout the park, and user numbers increased. Other upgrades such as the installation of climbing boulders, MUGA and exercise equipment has seen the need for parking by regular users increase.

While the Council notes the ongoing issues relating to dumping and abandoned cars at the car park, this has reduced significantly. In Q3/Q4 2025, prior to the installation of public lighting, the Council contacted local businesses to remove their cars from the car park at Mick Walsh Park. This had a significant impact, and the issue is now minimal.

In August of 2026, the Council's environment section had CCTV installed to reduce the issue of illegal dumping at the bottle banks in Mick Walsh. There has been a significant reduction in this behaviour since their installation, with a summary below:

Wk 1 – 28 Fines

Wk 2 – 38 Fines

Wk 3 – 21 Fines

Wk 4 – 10 Fines

Wk 5 – 3 Fines

The Operations department are not currently considering installing a vehicle gate at Mick Walsh Park as it would undo the work, we have strived for in previous years.

The Council will keep the situation under review and take any necessary steps with our colleagues to reduce this behaviour at the car park.

Source of Report:

Stephen Johnson, Executive Parks & Landscape officer, Operations Department