

Save Our Schools Committee

Retort to the recent report furnished by CMETB

SITE APPRAISAL

This states clearly that much of the site can be easily developed if new buildings were needed.

ACCESS & SET DOWN

Most schools in the country have traffic congestion at school gates for no more than 10-15 minutess morning and evening. This is not unusual at school gates but there is room to develop if necessary.

PARKING

There is scope for developing the parking at the front of the school.

OUTDOOR PLAYING FACILITIES

As there is no room on the site for a football/GAA pitch the report neglects to point out that the school has use of the local community field which is within walking distance from the school for sporting events which is agreed with the local GAA club, Templeport. A path directly from the school could be constructed to the field. There are 2 excellent pitches available to the school all year round.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

In the feasibility study it states there are 2 temporary accommodation buildings on site and that one is used as a store and the other as a classroom. This in fact is incorrect as both are used as classrooms.

2.3.2 PLANNING HISTORY

We question the dates of work carried out in the planning history as it omits a 12 room extension added to the school in 1986-87. From 2007-2011 new building work was carried out including foyer, language laboratory/computer suite, general classrooms and canteen. Complete re-wiring of building, fire alarm system, intercom system and completely new heating system. In 2017 total refurbishment of the science laboratory was carried out and in 2018 a general purpose room was transformed into a second science laboratory.

Money spent on the school 2007 - 2011 €1.3 million

2018 €440,000

COST OF PROPOSED WORKS TO ST. MOGUE'S COLLEGE

We refute totally the findings of the feasibility study and feel that the school has the space available to build a sports hall and any new classrooms that are required. With regard to the ASD/SNU unit is it necessary for every school to have one? There is already one in St. Bricin's and so question the need for one in St. Mogue's. It is our understanding that pupils attending a ASD/SNU unit in primary school benefit from integrating into main stream school when progressing to secondary school, but if a unit is required there is ample room to have one in St. Mogues.

We are bemused how a feasibility study could be completed without a mention of costings.

We would recommend retention, refurbishment and future investment of St. Mogue's College including an upgrade of Home Economics and Woodwork rooms and the building of a sports hall. This could all be done at a fraction of the cost of a new building. Bearing in mind the recent investment in St. Mogue's College it would be a waste of taxpayers money to now close the school and build a new school on a green field site.