

Glounsharoon Contract Signing: A Giant Leap for Viewing Area Development

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Daniel Canty of Canty Construction (centre) at the signing of the Glounsharoon viewing area contract flanked by Castleisland Chamber Alliance Chairman, Michael John Kearney (left) and Seán Linnane, NEWKD at the River Island Hotel on Friday evening. ©Photograph: John Reidy

The straws in the wind which blew good news the way of the development of the viewing area at Glounsharoon were hardened up considerably on Friday evening at the River Island Hotel.

There, three men sat at a table and signed a contract which cleared the way for work to commence at the greatly admired and much talked of viewing area on the Limerick Road outside Castleisland.

Historic Contract Signing

Michael John Kearney, chairman of Castleisland Chamber Alliance; Daniel Canty of Canty Construction and Seán Linnane of North, East and West Kerry Development are the men involved in the historic signing. Sums of €54,831.46 and €18,277.16 were put together to make €73,108.62 from Transitional Leader Funding and Castleisland Chamber Alliance respectively.

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Seating, Benches on Paved Areas

Plans for the area include: seating and benches on paved areas, a tourism information board, parking areas, tarmacadam surfacing and lining, a programme of wildflower, biodiversity and grass management planting and perimeter fencing.

The work, which is due to commence within days, is expected to be largely completed by Christmas.

The Case for Glounsharoon

This is one of the most widely welcomed developments in the area for years and is, undoubtedly, a feather in the caps of Castleisland Chamber Alliance, NEKWD and Kerry County Council and the various politicians who followed the 'Case for Glounsharoon' down through the years.

It's over a decade ago now that Cllr. Mick Gleeson sent me a note for The Kerryman which aimed to promote Glounsharoon from its then and current state of neglect to what is coming its way over the next while.

And then we'll be looking forward to the growing season when the proposed planting begins to unveil its own beauty and contribution to the said biodiversity.

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