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COMMUNITY VOICE

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DUBLIN 15'S ONLY **FREE!** NEWSPAPER

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Castleknock village centre plans unveiled

The long planned village centre for Castleknock has moved a step closer following the recent lodgement of significantly revised plans for the project by the developer, Uxbridge Properties Ltd. with the Fingal County Council planning department.

The company, which is controlled by four local businessmen, purchased the 2.3 acre village site some years ago and submitted plans for its development last year. The application generated a significant number of local objections at the time and Fingal County Council sought additional information on the project from the company. This was subsequently provided, but then Uxbridge withdrew their application and went back to drawing board.

Since then the company has held a series of meetings regarding the design and layout with the council's planning and conservation officers as well as with the other council technical staff.

Speaking to *Community Voice* one of the directors, Jimmy Boucher said "all of us involved in this project are local residents and are anxious that what we do is sympathetic to and in keeping with the old village of Castleknock. We have read every objection that was submitted and we have genuinely tried to take them all on board in our revised designs."

In addition to changing the heights of sections of the com-

plex, the biggest change to the original plans is that the centre will now be fully pedestrianised. A pedestrian thoroughfare will run through the development from Castleknock Road to a planned new civic square. The new street will have 15 shop units and restaurants along both sides with a large retail unit fronting the square.

It is understood that discussions have been held with two major "Class A" retailers interested in leasing this store. A medical centre, office units and a total of 47 apartments are also proposed. Car parking for 346 cars will be provided in a two level underground car park directly accessed from the junction at Myo's.

Despite the reservations expressed about the scheme last year, Jimmy Boucher is confident that the revised proposal should meet most of the objections voiced at that stage. "We have met with the Council planners, listened to everything they told us and have taken all their suggestions on board," he said.

The company are also "putting together an information pack which we hope to

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Hayley Murtagh (3) and Emma McDaid (6), both from Tyrrelstown help prepare the new vegetable garden at the Corduff Youth Project (see story on page 10)

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