



Christopher and Kathryn Cunningham. SC40921G

Property firm up for award

A DUNGANNON property management and self catering accommodation business is boasting the best of British bed and breakfasts.

KC Accommodations has been shortlisted for the "Multi-Property Wizard" Award at Britain's premier annual awards for the industry.

The eviivo Awards, now in their fifth year, celebrate the best of Britain's world-class and world famous bed and breakfasts, guest houses, inns and small independent hotels.

The eviivo Awards for 2018 shortlist sees KC Accommodations reach the final stages of the nomination process.

KC Accommodations is run by local man Christopher Cunningham and is based at Ann Street, Dungannon. KC Accommodations has been managing property and self catering accommodations successfully for the past decade.

Their application will be judged by a panel of industry experts before the winners are announced at the Annual eviivo Awards dinner at Quaglino's, Bury Street, London on 16th October.

Both Christopher and his wife Kathryn will be attending the gala evening in London.

Stated Christopher: "At KC Accommodations we work very hard to give our guests a fantastic and unique experience.

"We are absolutely delighted to be recognised through this shortlisting for the Multi-Property Wizard Award and we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be successful on the night in London."

More costs to ratepayers as Council decides to replace Irish signs again

MID-ULSTER Council is set to go ahead with replacing new Irish language signs which were only installed a matter of months ago... as they are not happy with the style of the signs!

Around 26 signs at various locations throughout the district will have to be replaced after a recommendation by the Environment Committee was adopted by the nationalist-controlled Council at its monthly meeting on Thursday night.

And it is ratepayers who will, once again, have to foot the bill.

It is the second time within a matter of months that the Council has voted to change the style of the signs which have been erected throughout the Dungannon,

Cookstown and Magherafelt areas.

The Council had previously stated that replacing the signs only (without the legs) will cost in the region of £2,200.

However at the monthly meeting, UUP Cllr Mark Glasgow queried the cost stating £2,200 for 26 signs to be replaced "didn't seem accurate" and he added that the Council sums "didn't seem to tally with the number of signs"

He told the meeting "If it costs £84 to take the signs down in order to make amendments and £160 to put them back up, this means that it is in fact adding up to £244 per sign. The total price for 26 signs to be replaced would therefore be £6,344 and not £2,200."

Cllr Glasgow called on the Council to produce a paper outlining the total costs



and his party colleague Councillor Trevor Wilson agreed.

DUP Cllr Clement Cuthbertson proposed that the Council should not proceed with the Irish language sign updates as the cost of labour had not been included or made clear.

He continued: "Two signs are likely to be completed in one day and these figures do not

reflect man hours necessary for the signs to be replaced.

"It's okay to say that it has already been agreed, but the policy keeps changing."

And he told the nationalist-controlled Council: "You're all supposed to be experts on Irish, but then come back and say the signs can't be read right after they are replaced."

The Council's Coolhill Cemetery sign in Dungannon in both Irish and English will have to be replaced again.

End of line for phone boxes in Mid-Ulster?

THREE payphones in the Mid-Ulster area are being earmarked for removal by BT.

It is proposed by the public authority to remove payphones in Cookstown, Maghera and Magherafelt.

The kiosks facing the end of the line are at Megargy Road, near its junction with Dunarnon Road, just outside Magherafelt; Slaughtneil Road at the Old Post Office, off Tirkane Road in Maghera and on Lough Fea Road in Cookstown, near Ballybriest Orange Hall.

In the past 12 months, BT say that no phone calls have been made from the kiosks.

While, it proposes to remove the three kiosks, they say their "obligation to provide a Universal Service will be maintained, as there are other kiosks within the vicinity".

A notice of BT's proposal to close the kiosks is being displayed in each of the three telephone boxes.

Dozens of the old red telephone

By MATTHEW DAWSON

boxes throughout the country have been removed over the past few years, though a telephone box earmarked for removal got a reprieve after residents and politicians spoke in favour of retaining it.

Not only was the kiosk in Bush rescued from being hung up for good, it recently got a facelift with a shiny new coat of paint.

Speaking in relation to the kiosk in Bush, DUP Councillor Clement Cuthbertson highlighted at the time the sense of attachment felt by a local community to the phone box.

He said: "The traditional red kiosk is very much part of the village and a heritage worth preserving".

Mid-Ulster Council has been consulted by BT for its attitude on the proposals to shut the trio of phone boxes - and their response will determine whether they consider it to be a heritage worth preserving at these sites.

Principals' conference

THE Education Authority (EA) in partnership with Inspire Workplaces today (Tuesday 2nd October) will host a Wellbeing Conference for school principals in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown.

The conference aims to develop knowledge and provide practical advice to help equip principals with skills to recognise the importance of self-care, to build self-confidence and resilience and to promote a culture of wellbeing within their schools.

Approximately 150 principals will hear from professional industry experts and discuss best practice approaches to health and wellbeing.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to participate in interactive workshop sessions that covered core themes including; the wellbeing of a school principal; the wellbeing of a school as a whole; and building self-confidence to support the professional development of school staff.

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