

newsreview '10

MAY

A Newry couple, whose home was targeted in a pipe bomb attack, would not be forced from their Drumalane home according to their local Councillor Charlie Casey (SF).

The district PSNI Chief Superintendent Alasdair Robinson apologised to the people of Newtownhamilton who felt let down by the police response to a recent bomb attack in the South Armagh town.

A cache of cannabis was uncovered by police in Newry. The PSNI seized £40,000 worth of the drug and drug paraphernalia as well as €25,809 from one of three accused.

The discovery of a pipe bomb in Newry caused a four hour evacuation in the city. This was the third bomb attack in the city within seven days. Army Technical Officers and the PSNI arrived in Drumgullion Avenue after authorities were alerted to a suspicious device located at a house on the Armagh Road.

A disability campaigner claimed that parking at some of Newry's main shopping centres is discriminatory to the disabled. Leigh Gath said she felt like a 'second class citizen' because she couldn't reach pay stations at shopping centres to collect a ticket or stretch to deposit her parking ticket at the respective car park barriers.

Conor Murphy (SF) retained his Newry and Armagh seat at the Westminster elections whilst Margaret Ritchie (SDLP) replaced retiring party colleague Eddie McGrady by winning the South Down seat. Meanwhile, the Conservatives emerged as the biggest party across the UK but did not win enough

seats to secure an outright majority and as such formed a coalition government with the Liberal Democrats. Following the election, the new government set about implementing cuts in a bid to balance the books.

Despite a row in the chamber over value for money, Council agreed to send representatives to Milwaukee Irish Fest in August at a cost to the ratepayer of £1,800 per attendee.

Newry and Armagh MLA Danny Kennedy emerged as one of the favourites to succeed Sir Reg Empey as leader of the Ulster Unionist Party. Fuel was added to the rumour when Mr Kennedy told the Reporter that he was stepping down from his role as Fews Councillor after 25 years.

Councillors highlighted a need to 'tune in' to good weather weekends in order to cope with the influx of visitors and subsequent pile up of litter at attractions such as Cranfield following temperatures of 25 degrees Celsius.

Massive cuts in the Department of Education's capital budget looked likely to cause delays to the building of a new school for St Clare's Convent PS.

US Economic Envoy to Northern Ireland, Declan Kelly was in Newry to speak at a special brunch meeting of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade. Mr Kelly spoke about the challenges facing business in Northern Ireland.



St Clare's Convent PS Principal Michelle Monaghan with pupils. 10W21N16



Police in Newry seized herbal cannabis with an estimated value of £40,000. 10W18N702



Newry and Armagh MP Conor Murphy speaks to the Newry Reporter's Cormac Campbell. 10W19N25



Leigh Gath said paid parking facilities were unsuitable for some disabled people. 10W19N7



Councillor Charlie Casey at the scene of a pipe bomb attack. 10W18N20



Pictured at the Newry Chamber Business Brunch are Deputy Mayor Charlie Casey; US Economic Envoy Declan Kelly; Brian McConville (MJM); Consul General Kamala Lakhdir and Chamber President Conor Patterson. 10W21N8