

# Southside People

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## IN THE DARK ESB STAND OFF LEAVES SOCCER CLUB WAITING ON THE SIDELINES

ONE of Dublin's oldest soccer clubs is in danger of losing grants and defaulting on loans because of a dispute between their local authority and the ESB.

Valeview Shankill FC cannot use its clubhouse because Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is not happy with the size and location of a transformer outside the building.

As a result, over 300 players are without lights and showering facilities and are finding it difficult to host home matches and fundraising events in what should be their peak season.

This is despite having received funds from the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism, the National Lottery and the local authority, as well as a Credit Union

€300,000 on this building. We got grants, loans and sponsorship from local businesses but we can't draw on

the grants - actually, we're in danger of losing the grants because of this delay in opening the clubhouse."

by GERALDING COMISKEY  
and WARREN SWORDS

loan and contributions from businesses.

Valeview, which was established in the 1920s, joined forces with another club which uses the grounds at Shanganagh Park to build the new clubhouse.

"We came together with Rathmichael Shankill to raise funds and get it built," Valeview committee member Jack Lynam told *The Southside People*. "It took us four years to raise funds for it and we spent over

Despite efforts by local TD Eamon Gilmore to mediate between the council and the ESB, they continue to argue over the size, appearance and location of the "sub-station", a metal structure about two metres square which was built just inside the gates of Shanganagh Park.

Deputy Gilmore described the row as "ludicrous" and appealed to both sides to "see some sense" and resolve the matter.

"It's two arms of the State and neither can make a decision," he said. "Meanwhile, kids cannot use their clubhouse. The argument is going round and round for the last couple of months, it's absolutely crazy."

He said the current location of the structure is undesirable as it is clearly not in the right place but insisted that a solution is needed quickly as the clubhouse is lying idle.

ESB press officer Kevin MacDermott confirmed that they have been in discussion both with Deputy Gilmore and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

"We are confident that a solution can be found and power supply restored to the club," he said.

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has so far failed to respond to requests



### DRUMMER BOY

Claran O'Mahony was just one of 108 musicians to gather at St Clare's Primary School in Harold's Cross last week during a unique drumming event. Pupils from the school brought the audience on a tour of world music using lengths of left over Wavin piping!



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