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2026 CLARE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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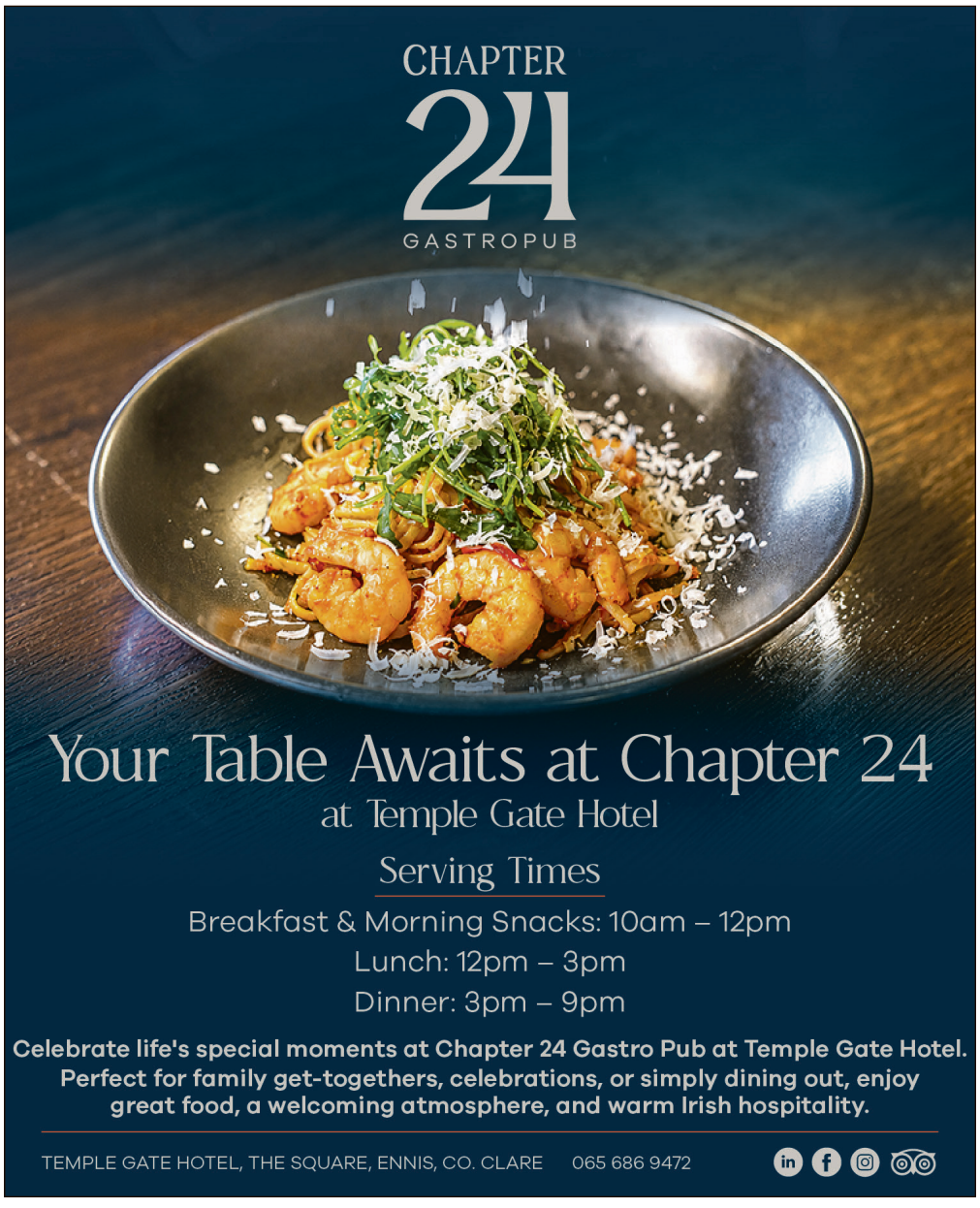
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Let's get down to **business**

● Pictured enjoying the 2026 Clare Business Excellence Awards at The Rine Hotel in Newmarket-on-Fergus last Thursday night are Deirdre Keating (LEO Clare), Margaret O'Brien, (CEO, Ennis Chamber), Bernie Haugh, (Head of Enterprise, Clare County Council) and Emer Barry, LEO Clare

Photo by Mike Mulcaire



Warning signs and traffic measures considered for narrow Killaloe street

by Paige Foley
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WARNING signs and possible traffic management measures are being examined to prevent large vehicles from entering a narrow section of Main Street in Killaloe, where councillors say the problem is occurring on a daily basis.

Killaloe Municipal District is to review the street following a motion from Cathaoirleach Cllr Tony O'Brien (FF), who called for prominent signage warning drivers of HGVs, buses and other oversized vehicles that there is no suitable exit at the lower end of the street.

In a written response, Senior Executive Engineer Declan Flanagan said the review would consider additional advance warning signs at suitable approach locations, advising drivers of the restricted road width and lack of a suitable exit or turning opportunity.

The Council will also examine the feasibility of physical traffic management measures, including carriageway build-outs or other engineering interventions, to discourage unsuitable vehicles from entering the street.

Any proposed measures will be assessed in terms of road safety, operational effectiveness and the need to maintain access for residents, businesses, public transport and emergency services.

Speaking at the November meeting of Killaloe Municipal District, Cllr O'Brien said drivers were being directed onto the street by Google Maps, despite it being unsuitable for larger vehicles.

He described it as an ongoing road safety issue and said an advance warning sign was needed as an interim measure, adding that the matter needed to be addressed sooner rather than later.

Cllr Alan O'Callaghan (FF), who seconded the motion, said Google Maps was a major part of the problem.

"Google Maps is the problem," he said.

He pointed to signage erected on the R462 at Sixmilebridge, but said drivers continued to rely on navigation apps on their phones, even when signage shows that more suitable routes are available.

Senior Executive Officer Eoin Troy said the issue was a significant one nationally, with similar problems arising in North Clare during the summer.

He explained that navigation systems can redirect drivers based on traffic volumes, sometimes sending them onto less suitable roads. He said the systems operate through global algorithms, making it difficult to identify an individual contact to address the problem.

Cllr O'Brien said the issue was happening daily and needed to be tackled in the interests of safety for other road users.

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