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NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY



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DUP NEWS

Latest News:

MCCREA DISCUSSES REPUBLICAN PARADE WITH PARADES COMMISSION

DUP Mid Ulster MLA Cllr Ian McCrea has raised with the Parades Commission a Republican parade to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the death of IRA terrorist Seamus Woods who was killed by his own bomb whilst he was engaged in a mortar and gun attack on Pomeroy barracks. Speaking today Mr. McCrea said:

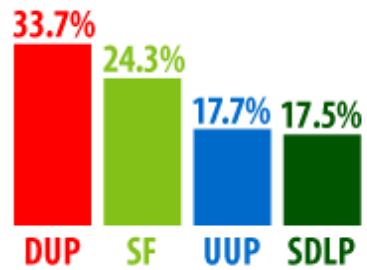


"I received objections to this parade from local residents in Pomeroy and made immediate contact with the Parades Commission and the Police, outlining the concerns.

The plans for this parade were realised last week after the event was publicised on a bebo site in honour of Seamus Woods. The same site contains tributes to the terrorist amongst which one contributor states that he found "great satisfaction and pleasure from taking part in operations wearing his Wellingtons, a source of constant amusement to his comrades."

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I find this parade to be totally offensive as do the many families who lost loved ones to Republicans during over 30 years of the Troubles. For the parade to pass the Church of Ireland Church where there are memorials erected to local people who were killed during the troubles will certainly not help the already strained community relations in Pomeroy.

It is my preference that this parade did not take place due to the hurt and offence it will cause to the many victims of IRA terrorism in Pomeroy, however if the organisers were to take steps to remove any associations with terrorism, such a parade would be more acceptable to the law abiding citizens of the area.

I have asked the Parades Commission in light of the concerns to consider this as a contentious parade and ensure that the Protestant community is not subject to any further intimidation."

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