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TIT FOR TAT

Tonio Fenech and Dolores Cristina are the two ministers reported to the police yesterday, as Joseph Muscat and Frank Portelli exchange allegations



Muscat - lodges police report

MALTATODAY can confirm from police sources that the two Cabinet ministers reported by Opposition leader Joseph Muscat to the police yesterday, over “serious declarations” connected with the St John’s Co-Cathedral project, are Finance Minister Tonio Fenech and Education Minister Dolores Cristina.

Muscat supplied Police Commissioner John Rizzo with de-

tails of a meeting of the PN parliamentary group, held on 31 January 2009, in which he alleged that one of the two Nationalist ministers – whom he did not name in public – had hinted at “undue pressure” on public officials to have the controversial museum extension project approved.

According to Muscat’s allegation the other minister stated

that European funding for the controversial St John’s Co-Cathedral project had been forthcoming only “because there was someone who knew how to play the game”: a statement widely interpreted to refer to Malta’s permanent ambassador to the EU Richard Cachia Caruana, who also sits on the board of the Cathedral Foundation.

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Portelli - fires serious allegation



Summertime
 Summertime officially commenced at 2am and all clocks are now set one hour forward.

Raphael Vassallo
 page 16 ▶



Saviour Balzan
 page 21 ▶



Terry Gosden interviewed
 pages 12-13 ▶



Hamrun council up in arms, after Hexagon loan uses up €45,000 for council’s car park

MEPA helps itself to car park fund to buy Hexagon House

James Debono

AFTER MaltaToday’s Wednesday edition confirmed that the Malta Environment and Planning Authority (MEPA) bought Hexagon House using cash from a publicly financed parking fund, the Hamrun local council claims to have ‘lost’ €45,000 from its share of the allotted funds.

The council is now requesting an urgent meeting with MEPA’s chairman, Austin J. Walker.

In order to buy Hexagon House in Marsa – the same building which made headlines this week, due to emissions of hydro-



gen sulphide from the sewage system leading to its evacuation on Monday – MEPA took out a €3.1 million, interest-free loan from the Community Parking Payment Scheme (CPPS): a fund used to finance community car parks. This arrangement has angered local councils, as the CPPS is financed directly by fees developers pay to MEPA if they are unable to provide the required parking facilities for their projects. The money is then used to finance car parks.

The Hamrun council is particularly incensed, as the funding supposedly allocated by MEPA for a new car park in

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Next Wednesday

MaltaToday midweek will be dedicating a special issue to the ‘Eddie legacy’ with contributions from Michael Falzon, Eddie Aquilina, Roger de Giorgio, Wenzu Mintoff, James Debono, Raphael Vassallo and Saviour Balzan.



Eddie’s legacy



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☎: 21 345 123
 ☎: 21 345 377

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