

VILLAGE MEETING

Ordino will be a «turning point» in the parish's urban growth

A commissioned analysis shows that since 2020 there has been a «boom» in construction

To ensure the natural environment, the municipality draws up a roadmap with 12 challenges and 65 lines of action



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►► The consuls of Ordino, Josep Àngel Mortés and Eva Choy, during the village meeting.

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The Municipality of Ordino has decided to put «a turning point in the current situation of urban growth».

This was stated yesterday by the Consul General, Josep Àngel Mortés, and the Consul Minor, Eva Choy, during a town meeting where the corporation's officials presented to the neighbors the two projects worked on last year with the willingness to assess the sustainability of the parish: the management plan of the Biosphere Reserve and the study of the evolution of urbanism and its involvement of resources.

Thus, having observed an increase in urban activity in Ordino, and with the challenge of finding its balance with the preservation of the natural heritage, the majority will present to a vote, in an extraordinary session of the Municipal Council,

a change of the Parish Planning and Urbanism Plan (POUP) in order to define a more sustainable urban development model, which seeks to limit the impact on aspects such as the consumption of resources or the mobility generated.

Today, the parish has about 5,300 inhabitants and 1,500 homes. The analysis has shown the municipality that from 2020 there has been a «significant urban growth», which Mortés defined as a «construction boom», having materialized almost 45,000 square meters between 2018 and 2022. An activity that, as the consul pointed out, «has left a positive figure, and is that we have collected more than four million in taxes since 2018», despite insisting that «we must not be blind and want to collect more». In fact, the POUP envisages a maximum of 4.6 million square meters and 125,000 inhabitants, a scenario that we «completely rule out». In short, Mortés claimed that



JOSEP ÀNGEL MORTÉS
GENERAL CONSUL OF ORDINO

«We can't afford to be wrong and let market demand impose itself on common sense»

EVA CHOY
MINOR CONSUL OF ORDINO

«The Biosphere Reserve is a great opportunity for the parish, for the country and for everyone»

«we cannot afford to be wrong and let market demand impose itself on common sense».

All in all, the leaders of the corporation noted that this modification of the POUP is made with the aim of

preserving the status of Biosphere Reserve, to protect the natural environment, and maintain the quality of life and well-being in the parish. In addition, Mortés emphasized that with this measure, Ordino

aims to become «the leading parish in sustainability in Andorra». In any case, Mortés stated that «we will not cut construction at once, we want to minimize this unsustainable growth that currently exists», making a «retouching of the parameters of construction».

At the same time, the municipality has defined a roadmap that considers 12 major challenges and 65 lines of action to meet the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for: Clean Water and Sanitation, Production and responsible consumption, Climate action, Life of terrestrial ecosystems. This scorecard becomes the key tool for preserving the recognition of the Biosphere Reserve and aligning with the goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. According to Choy, «the Biosphere Reserve is a great opportunity for the parish, for the country and for everyone», and she pointed out that a consistent roadmap has been set up that can go beyond our mandate».

In addition, the door is opened, in a second phase, to also launch actions to work on the SDGs for reducing inequalities; industry, innovation and infrastructure; and sustainable cities and communities.

After the presentation of the consuls, the attendees were able to send their questions to the consuls, and they were also reprimanded. One of them was around the Grifols project and the land they will occupy, around which the consul justified himself by recalling that «it may like it more or less, but it is a Government land and if they have decided that it is a foreign investment project that can bring to the country, welcome will be». They also criticized the Querola project, which, although Mortés emphasized that it was attractive to the public, one of the listeners demanded: «for a million euros, can the flat be attractive to the public?». ≡

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CELEBRATIONS

La Massana pays tribute to Amadeu Rossell and Gregorio Cerviño

The population closes an «exceptional» Roser according to Molné

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LA MASSANA
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La Massana remembered and paid tribute to the figure of Amadeu Rossell, who lost his life in an altruistic and heroic act for the parish and much of the country. It was during the floods of November 1982, when Rossell, accompanied by Gregorio Cerviño -Goyo-, made a big effort in the middle of an episode of torrential rain to close the gas distribution valves in La Massana and avoid a worse tragedy. In full action, Cerviño submerged to close a valve covered with water while Rossell remained on the surface, and without warning, the layer of gas that covered it ignited causing fatal injuries to Rossell, who ended up losing the life two days later. That is why yesterday, La Massana municipality dedicated the recognition of the Tribute to the Citizen to Amadeu Rossell, delivering an award to his family and uncovering an honorary plaque that will be placed in the Ciutadania Square of La Massana.

«He had a great vision for the future. He was simple and humble. He was a politician and a good person», highlighted the Consul General of La Massana, Olga Molné, during her speech at the event, adding that «we pay tribute to a man committed to the parish and the country». For her part, and with obvious emotion, Amadeu Rossell's widow, Àngels Tarradellas, thanked the corporati-



Olga Molné

CONSUL MAJOR OF LA MASSANA

«He was simple and humble. A politician and a good person. We pay tribute to a commitment to the parish and the country»

Àngels Tarradellas

WIDOW OF AMADEU ROSSELL

«My husband was a very nice guy: everyone was his friend. And best of all, he knew how to talk to everyone»

Gregorio Cerviño

ASSISTANT IN THE FLOODS OF 82

«I am very grateful to the community for giving me this recognition as well. I have clear memories and I'm still excited»



►► The Consul General of La Massana, Olga Molné, places the silver pine of the parish on Gregorio Cerviño.

on for the distinction. «It's been 40 years and it's a resurrection of life, to feel him very close and that he's here with us», acknowledged Tarradellas, who added that «you never imagined that something like this could happen». «It was a Sunday afternoon and I remember leaving his boots to go fishing, thinking that the water was reaching a certain level, but it was reaching his chest», said Tarradellas, who added that «that's why he had to take Goyo, who is a strong man, to get there». However, she pointed out that «all this could not be explained to me anymore, I found out little by little afterwards». «My husband was a very nice guy: everyone was his friend. And best of all, he knew how to talk to everyone, whether he was a worker or a minister» she said.

In the same vein, Gregorio Cerviño was also present at the day, and the Municipality of La Massana gave him a silver pin from the parish to symbolize the gratitude of his act in the face of events and that prevented a catastrophe even bigger. «I am very grateful to the community for giving me this recognition as well», said Cerviño, who acknowledged that «I have clear memories of what happened and the truth is that I am still excited». «With this act we can keep alive the memory of a man who was very good, and who, unfortunately, was touched by misfortune», he concluded.

This event was one of the most emotional and significant of a Roser that has been held without restrictions and that, according to the Con-

sul General, «has been exceptional, both for the influx of people and for the good organization by the party committee». The awards ceremony and events at noon yesterday in front of the Church ended with the performance of various dances by the Esbart de les Valls del Nord. At the time of dancing the Esquerrana, which put an end to the party, the dancers stood in the middle of the square to invite attendees to be part of it, encouraging all members of the corporation present, as well as the Head of Government, Xavier Esport, and the Minister of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, Judith Pallarés.

The Roser of la Massana ended after three days of celebration with the evening dance by the Premium Orchestra. ≡

TOURISM

Solar de Tristaina viewpoint exceeds all expectations

In just over a month, the Ordino Arcalís station has already received 7,000 visitors

EL PERIÒDIC
ESCALDES-ENGORDANY

Tristaina Solar viewpoint has been open for a year and from Grandvalira, the balance could not be more positive. «From the first day we exceeded expectations, both in terms of the influx of general public and their perception of the attraction, which has received a constant show of admiration for its spectacularism», the general manager, Juan Ramón Moreno said. In fact, this year Grandvalira decided to bring for-

ward the inauguration of the summer season with the opening on June 4th of the Creussans chairlift that gives access to the viewpoint on weekends. In addition, from June 23rd, the Tristaina Gondola also came into operation. In just over a month, Ordino Arcalís has already received 7,000 visitors. «The fact that we are advancing the start of the season means that, for now, it is the summer with the highest influx of visitors at this height», said Moreno.

However, he acknowledged that the most powerful months are July and August, as well as September and October. During the first summer, the viewpoint received about 85,000 people and during the win-

ter, there were also many adventurers who were encouraged to climb with mountain skis or snowshoes. Thus, the prospects for this summer are also very high despite the current situation of uncertainty. «We hope to repeat last year's success and get closer to the 130,000 visitors between Ordino Arcalís and Grandvalira», said its general manager. In this sense, he believes that the profile of visitors in the summer will be very similar to that in the winter with a local client who will have a lot of weight.

Moreno also reported that despite the alterations to the Solar viewpoint, the point that has received a profound renovation is La Coma restaurant. ≡



►► The Solar Viewpoint of Tristaina.

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