

Croke Park Community Liaison Committee

Minutes of meeting held January 19th, 2009

Chaired by:

Claire Barry, Sonas Consulting Ltd.

Attendees:

Pat Gates (CPARA)

Noel Morris (CPARA)

David Purdue (CPARA)

Cllr. Mary Fitzpatrick

Julie Manahan (Páirc an Chrócaigh Teoranta)

Peter Mc Kenna (Páirc an Chrócaigh Teoranta)

Inspector Tony Gallagher (Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station)

Brian Riddick (Parking Enforcement Officer, Dublin City Council)

Charlie Lowe (Executive Manager, Central Area, Dublin City Council)

John McPartlan (Public Domain Officer, Central Area, Dublin City Council)

Bláthnaid Casey (Assistant Staff Officer, Central Area, Dublin City Council)

Apologies:

Roddy Guiney (Páirc an Chrócaigh Teoranta)

Conor Martin (Drumcondra Businesses)

Julie McDermott (CPARA)

Cllr. Aodhán Ó Riordáin

1. Residents-Only Parking.

As Tim O'Sullivan was unable to attend, Brian Riddick from the Traffic Department attended the meeting in order to get the view of members in relation to Resident Only Parking around the Croke Park area.

Brian informed the committee that the Iona Residents Association attended the last Central Area Committee meeting and that Tim O'Sullivan had indicated that he would update the February Traffic SPC with feedback from that group and from this committee on the issue. Brian explained that the report on Residents Only Parking was submitted to the SPC last September after public consultation and Dublin City Council saw no obvious way round the main issues, which were displacement, access to attend church services/hospitals and access for businesses. Brian invited the views of the committee on these three issues.

Pat Gates said that the report from Dublin City Council was lazy; it was not a proper analysis of the issues. The issue of displacement was focused upon and no solutions were explored.

Cllr. Fitzpatrick said the report lacked a proactive approach. She suggested the setting of the cordon at a distance which would discourage people from driving and also would result in dilution of the parking problem. With regard to the hospitals and churches people cannot get to these currently anyway, and she suggested that a system similar to HGV permits be introduced for the businesses. She pointed out that traffic was the single main issue identified in the Croke Park Study.

Charlie Lowe suggested the main issue is the cordon, the one proposed was a suggestion, the traffic Department will come back to the next SPC with proposals to progress the issue. Ultimately, it will be up the Councillors to adopt any proposal put forward.

Inspector Gallagher said a cordon of 2km would be impractical to enforce due to lack of resources.

Brian Riddick gave an undertaking to target the Croke Park area in the coming season with regard to enforcing Pay and Display and parking restrictions.

David Purdue said that as displacement is the main issue this is what needs to be addressed, the other two issues are red herrings and should be ignored.

Brian Riddick asked the committee to contact him should they have further ideas/suggestions on the matter.

2. Minutes and matters arising.

Cllr. Mary Fitzpatrick proposed the minutes of the last meeting were in order; Julie Manahan seconded the minutes.

3. Minutes from January 8th 2009 and agreeing CPCLC programme of work to address agreed priorities.

Claire Barry referred to the meeting on Jan 8th, the purpose of which was to collate the ideas recorded at the last full committee meeting and those circulated subsequently, with the intention of progressing the work of the committee. She suggested that the committee now agree and implement a work plan to effect change.

The three main priority areas identified are communication, traffic management and environmental management.

Communication:

Julie Manahan said that in relation to this issue, Croke Park would take the lead on improving communication and identify various contact people. As the aim is to improve all communication not just complaints, she would prefer that 'complaints' be subsumed into the feedback function referred to.

In relation to the Croke Park newsletter the last issue was delivered to 9,500 households and she will circulate a map of areas delivered to and invited feedback from members on this.

Julie said Croke Park need to do more work with patrons etc. and that Roddy Guiney would be happy to take this priority area on. Peter McKenna suggested that the feedback on this area could come from the CPARA representatives.

Traffic Management:

Claire Barry proposed the group hold a workshop/seminar around the issue of transport and that the various agencies/transport service providers be involved.

Charlie Lowe informed the committee that the Chief Executive of Iarnród Éireann has been invited to the next Central Area Committee meeting. Also, a representative of Bus Éireann has previously expressed interest in providing services (via consultants who carried out the Croke Park Study.) Claire Barry suggested that Lansdowne Road and the O2 arena should be invited to be involved as these are issues they will also deal with i.e. a whole city approach.

Pat Gates reiterated the need to set measurable targets, and the need for a means to show the community progress is being made. He suggested that in terms of authority DCC/Croke Park/ the Gardaí need to lead in the three categories, with the involvement of the community.

Charlie Lowe said DCC would take the lead on moving the transport/traffic issue forward and will look at arranging a seminar with a view to inviting the public transport service providers and asking them what they can do for the city in order to gain a collective perspective. He said they will be given an opportunity to analyse the issues beforehand and they can decide themselves if they wish to be involved in this business opportunity. Other venues to be looked at too, but with particular reference to Croke Park. He agreed to discuss DCC convening this seminar with Tim O'Sullivan, Executive Manager Roads and Traffic and Michael Phillips, Director of Traffic.

It was suggested that Croke Park also participate due to Roddy Guiney's involvement with both Croke Park and Lansdowne Road. Peter McKenna agreed to this.

Charlie Lowe said the involvement of a community representative would benefit the seminar, any representative of the community would be welcome, it doesn't need to be one of our CPARA representatives. CPARA representatives to revert with regard to this.

Environmental Management:

(Litter, Noise, Public Behaviour, Crowd Control, Planning, Community Gain).

It was acknowledged that this is not one neat category and that responsibility for separate areas will fall to different groups.

John McPartlan suggested a website might be a tool used to pose questions to the public around individual events. He said a new approach is needed in getting information on environmental impacts.

David Purdue suggested that more cross communication is needed in this section, as this is the areas that can make the biggest difference in the shortest period of time.

Charlie Lowe said that DCC should not lead something it has statutory obligations around, and suggested that some hard and fast implementation route is required. He suggested that perhaps Conor Martin representing the businesses and CPARA could drive some of the issues falling into this category, it would be an opportunity for them to have their say.

Pat Gates stated that CPARA have no resources to lead this and that the providers should take on this responsibility. Claire Barry's asked if CPARA could put forward suggestions on how progress can be defined in these areas, it was agreed that CPARA will look at this.

Charlie Lowe explained that he is unable to give a commitment on behalf of DCC if there is a cost factor involved. He said that if CPARA look at what tools are needed, DCC will help.

It was agreed that a final regular meeting of the committee is required to update on the progress the groups have made and agree future actions/events. This will be held on Monday, February 16th 2009.

4. AOB:

N/A

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 16th –venue may be different (details to be advised)