

**NAVAN ROAD AND PELLETSTOWN COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM**

**MINUTES – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Cllr. Aine Clancy, Anna B.Drew, Catherine O'Byrne, Catherine Allis, Brid Heffron, Peggy Mc Donagh, Anne Dolan, Anne Martin, Patricia O'Higgins, Liz Redmond, Martina Keunedy, Andrew Ki, Richard Brennan, Alan Guiney, Veronika Guiney, Elizabeth Mara, Richard McNerney, Michael Connolly, Pat O'Brien, Pauline Gildea, Margerer Conroy, Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan, Vivienne Ward, Oliver Ward, Mark O'Reilly, Pat Byrne, Rachel McGrane, David Keilts, Sean Leech, M O'Brien, David Rouse, Betty O'Dowd, Letta Freehill, Bridie Gerghty, David Garvey, Brian O'Higgins, B Halligan, Brian O'Higgins, Sean O'Donnell, Bernard Shannon, Andrew Higgins, Donal Lowry, Tina Coyle, Pat Allison, Synan Braddish, Tom Connick, Margaret Murray, Declan Moore, Esther Nugent.

Councillor Clancy opened the meeting and gave a brief explanation of the format and purpose of community forum meetings. She explained that meetings are chaired on a rotational basis. She then introduced the Garda and DCC representatives. Charlie Lowe went through the minutes from the last meeting and explained that minutes, with actions and updates where applicable, would be published on the DCC website following each meeting.

***GARDA ISSUES***

A Garda statistical report for the period October 2010 to January 2011 was presented by Sergeant Declan Moore. This report detailed crime statistics for each month, in each local area, of the overall Navan Road/Pelletstown area. Crime figures given were for criminal damage, burglaries, assaults, public order offences and searches under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Sergeant Moore explained that some of the figures given were high due to incidents that had occurred during Halloween and the two periods of bad weather.

Sergeant Moore detailed other operations which are ongoing in the area, such as works by the Drug Unit, alcohol testing check points, traffic weight restriction checks and case management.

Sergeant Moore introduced Inspector John Burke who has recently replaced Inspector Mal Doherty.

ISSUE	RESPONSE	ACTION
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<b><i>Allocation of resources from Cabra Garda Station to police Áras an Uachtaráin</i></b>	Gardai explained that while, the management of security for the President is co-ordinated by the Garda HQ based Liaison and Protection Unit, Cabra Garda Station remains responsible for manning the Áras.	Issue to be raised at the Central Area Joint Policing Committee meeting – <b>Councillor Aine Clancy</b>
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b><i>Recent robbery of a mobile phone from a woman in Rathborne Park</i></b>	Gardai reported that two juveniles were arrested and a file has been sent to the DPP in relation to this incident.	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to look into the possibility of having the gates locked at night Regular patrols are taking place, including patrols by plain clothes officers
<b><i>Residents reported that the Community Garda presence in the area appears to have been reduced, particularly around the older side of the Navan Road parish</i></b>	Gardai reported that there has been no reduction in personnel in Cabra Garda station, with six members allocated to Community Policing and one patrol car. There are up to six cars available, some from other stations, if urgently required The new Community Guard has undertaken a bicycle course and will be patrolling by bicycle as soon as protective clothing has been issued to her.	Residents were reminded that, in order to assist them in tackling crime, any incidents witnessed should be immediately reported to the Garda Station.
<b><i>Residents questioned Gardai on reports that items in relation to a recent robbery had been found at Villa Park Springs</i></b>	Gardai are unaware of any such items being found	Regular Garda patrols covering this area
<b><i>Garda response to calls in relation to rowdy house/apartment parties</i></b>	There is currently no legislation allowing Gardai to deal with parties taking place in private homes	Residents experiencing severe problems have the option of obtaining a court order in order to prevent further parties
<b><i>Skips being left on pavements for long periods</i></b>	Gardai reported that it is the responsibility of skip companies to have licences in place allowing skips to be put on pavements, Gardai can only take action if it is judged that the skips, or the material in them, is causing a danger to pedestrians or vehicles	Residents to report any poorly loaded skips to local Gardai

<b><i>Criminal damage to cars in the Ashington area and in the underground car parks of apartment complexes</i></b>	Gardai have been given fobs for most of these car parks and regularly include them in their patrols. They also have access to CCTV footage to assist them when robberies have taken place	Increased patrols around the Ashington area to be looked into – <b>Inspector Moore</b>
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b><i>DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL ISSUES</i></b>		
<b><i>Swales on Park Road</i></b> <i>Residents reported that the situation has deteriorated with a lot of rubbish now in the swales and water pooling around them</i>	Charlie Lowe explained the changes that were necessary to the Part 8 application in relation to the dimensions of the swales, and that no compliance issues had arisen. He also explained that the swales were a necessary engineering solution to alleviate flooding in the area, however, he apologised if residents had not been properly informed in the past.	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to request that engineers investigate whether more adjustments are needed and explain water pooling. On-site meeting with residents, local public representatives and engineers to take place – one weeks notice to be given
<b><i>Blackhorse Avenue</i></b> <i>It was reported that the condition of the road has deteriorated further following the recent bad weather, particularly at the section after the Cabra gates</i>  <i>It was reported that the current works on this road being undertaken by the contractor for Dublin City Council are causing some health and safety concerns</i>	No funding available to carry out works  Contractor is obliged to prepare a Health & Safety Plan	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to ask Roads Maintenance again to consider carrying out work under their new Works Programme, however, he is aware that funding in this department is extremely limited  <b>Charlie Lowe</b> to look into this matter with Engineer Padraig McNulty
<b><i>Tolka Valley linear park</i></b> <i>It was reported that the temporary trenches that have been put in to deter scrambler bikes were installed in the wrong direction</i>	Charlie Lowe explained that the park is being funded by developers' levies which must be spent by a certain time. For this reason work on	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to seek clarification on the matter of temporary trenches from Mary Ann Harris of the Parks Department

What progress has been made on the provision of the park?	the park has been accelerated with an archaeological survey currently taking place, and Parks Department meeting with the consultants this week to prepare tender documents.	
<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>RESPONSE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>River Road</b> <i>Serious traffic problems are ongoing on this road and the accident statistics provided by Gardai do not seem to be accurate</i>	Charlie Lowe explained that the problems associated with the volume of traffic and the width of River Road were not foreseen when planning applications were granted, as it had been thought that Dunsink Lane would also still be in use. Since the closure of Dunsink Lane the problems associated with the width of the road have become worse. Funding for the widening of the road has been sought, however, it has not been granted.	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to ask Traffic Engineers to compile a more accurate accident statistic report
<b>Derelict premises at 64 Navan Road</b>	Not included in recent Derelicts Sites Report	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to look into this matter and refer to the Derelict Sites Section
<b>Cars being parked due to no double yellow lines at the rail crossing to Ashtown Gate causing disruption</b>	Matter needs to be examined by Roads & Traffic	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to refer this matter to the Traffic Advisory Group
<b>Cars parking very close to the entrance of Kempton Estate and down to the avenue</b>	Matter needs to be examined by Roads & Traffic	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to refer this matter to the Traffic Advisory Group
<b>Tall trees at Halfway House roundabout causing visual obstruction to motorists</b>	Matter needs to be examined by Roads & Traffic and Fingal County Council	<b>Charlie Lowe</b> to request that the Parks Department look into this matter, also Fingal County Council to be notified
<b>Traffic calming measures required at Royal Canal Park and Avenue</b>	Charlie Lowe advised residents that, although this is a private road, not in charge of DCC, DCC's area Traffic Engineer may be able to give advice or assistance if contacted	Residents to contact the Area Traffic Engineer, Alec Dundon
<b>Allotments</b>		

<p><i>It was reported that a particular developer has refused to allow vacant land be used for allotments when approached by residents</i></p>	<p>Residents to approach developers again in relation to this matter</p>	<p>Charlie Lowe reported that he has produced a guideline paper in relation to the taking over of land owned by DCC to be used as allotments. He suggested that this paper could be used by developers as a guide when dealing with private land, particularly in relation to concerns that the developer may have in relation to public liability insurance and landlord and tenant issues</p>
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**Charlie Lowe provided an update on the following issues:**

- ***Navan Road Quality Bus Corridor***  
 There is some fine tuning and amendments to the proposal currently taking place, following the consultation period. It is anticipated that a report will be presented at the March/April Central Area Committee meeting for discussion and agreement, before a Part 8 Report can be presented to the City Council
- ***Pavement in need of repair outside Nephin Stores***  
 DCC's Law Department have confirmed that this pavement is part of the private landings belonging to 19, 21 and 23 Nephin Road, and as such, DCC cannot intervene in any maintenance or repair. Following a legal property search, the owners of the properties have been ascertained. Letters have been written to the owners requesting that the necessary repairs be made as soon as possible, however, to date no response has been received
- ***New Pelletstown train station***  
 Charlie Lowe reported that he is part of a group which is working on the development of this project. It is hoped that an update report will be presented at the March/April/May Central Area Committee meeting, before a planning application is submitted by Iarnród Éireann
- ***New drainage system required in Ashington Park football pitch***  
 A contractor has been appointed to carry out this work, commencing in March or April of this year
- ***Playground in Ashington Park***  
 Most of the playground equipment has been damaged as a result of anti-social behaviour and being set on fire. Replacement of this equipment is not possible as long as this anti-social behaviour is ongoing

- ***Kinvara Bring Centre***

DCC is aware that dumping is taking place in the vicinity of the Bring Centre, and CCTV has been installed to monitor this. It is not intended to remove or relocate this facility as DCC must ensure that EU recycling targets are being met.

- ***Dublin City Council Bike Scheme***

DCC is working in conjunction with JC Decaux to roll out this very successful scheme to as many, appropriate, locations outside the city as possible. A report has been prepared by DCC in relation to this matter and can be made available to anyone on request

- ***Proposed re-development of Reilly's Bridge***

a presentation is to be made to Councillors on this proposal on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The application has been submitted to An Bord Pleanala, with the decision likely to take six months – closing date for observations is 14<sup>th</sup> February.

- ***Community Development***

Marian Finglas was introduced as the Community Development Officer for the area, based in the Cabra Office. She briefly explained the community development work taking place and invited anyone interested in volunteering or suggesting summer project initiatives to get in touch with her

**Next Meeting – date to be confirmed (end of April) in Navan Road**