

**Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Liaison Committee  
for the Irishtown, Ringsend and Sandymount Catchment Area**

**Meeting: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
at 11.30am – 12.30pm  
Venue: Zoom Video Conferencing**

**Minute**

**Attendees:**

Peter McLoone (Chairperson); Kieran Mullins (DWtE Ltd.); Brian Hanney (DCC); Cllr. Paddy McCartan; Cllr Dermot Lacey; Eimear McCormack; Anthony McDonald; David Turner.

**Apologies:**

Cllr. James Geoghegan; James Nolan.

The Committee members acknowledged the recent passing of John Nolan. John was a member of the Committee from the time it was established in 2015 and the members noted the valuable contribution he made. It was agreed to send a letter of condolence to the family and convey the Committee's appreciation for all the work he did while he was a member.

It was suggested and agreed that the Committee would consider remembering John permanently, for example through a bursary. The Committee decided to discuss this further at their next meeting.

**Action:**

**Chairperson:** To send a letter of condolence to John Nolan's family on behalf of the Community Gain Liaison Committee.

**1.1 Welcome New Community Representatives**

The three newly appointed community representatives, Eimear McCormack, Anthony McDonald (Deke) and David Turner were formally introduced and welcomed onto the Committee.

**2.1 Minute of the meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and matters arising.**

The minute of the Community Gain Liaison Committee meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020 was approved.

**2.2 CGLC Update Note of the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and matters arising.**

The update note of the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 issued by the Chairperson was recorded by the Committee.

**2.3 Annual Report 2019**

The draft Annual Report 2019 was approved by the Committee and it was agreed that it should be made available for circulation to all relevant parties. In order to accommodate a member who had technical difficulties accessing the document in advance of the meeting it was agreed to defer publication until Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

**Administrator Note:** No queries or issues were raised and the Annual Report 2019 was published as approved.

### 3.1 Irishtown Stadium Extension Project Update

The update in respect of the Irishtown Stadium extension project was noted by the Committee members. It was acknowledged that the Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Fund contributed a total of €2.05m to the project and that Crusaders AC and St. Patrick's CYFC had also made substantial financial contributions.

The Committee discussed the promotion of the Irishtown Stadium facility once it has been finally completed. It was recorded that both clubs are intending to publicise the facility and maximise its use. The members were informed that St. Patrick's CYFC had promoted and established their first ladies football team and were making use of the previously unusable football pitch and that the addition of male and female changing rooms had already made a positive impact for Crusaders AC. The Chairperson advised that both clubs had confirmed that the level of membership and participation in them had increased as the project progressed. In addition, it was noted that Dublin City Council would continue to promote the existence of the facility and ensure that it remains active and accessible to the whole community.

It was mentioned by the Committee that a planning application referring to the previously granted link corridor between Irishtown Stadium and the new extension had been submitted to Dublin City Council. It was agreed that enquiries would be made in relation to this and the Committee members informed accordingly.

#### **Action:**

**Administrator:** To make enquiries regarding the planning application and inform the Committee members.

### 4.1 Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Projects Grant Scheme 2019 Project Status Report Q1 2021

The Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Projects Grant Scheme 2019 project status report was noted. It was confirmed that 24 of the 38 organisations/groups approved in principle had completed their projects and drawn down their grant funding to a sum of circa €1.35m. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the remaining 14 organisations/groups were unable to complete their projects within the timeframe specified and were granted extensions to their grant drawdown expiry date.

### 4.2 St. Patrick's Church Project Update

The Committee members were informed that St. Patrick's Church's stained glass window restoration project had been completed and that all of their allocated grant funding had been drawn down.

### 4.3 Cambridge Boys FC Project Update

The Committee members were informed that Cambridge Boys FC's astro turf pitch resurfacing project in Ringsend Park was currently on hold due to Covid-19 restrictions. PST Sports won the tender to resurface the pitch to the sum of circa €100K. It was confirmed that the Dublin Waste Community Gain Fund were contributing €75K to the project and that Dublin City Council had committed to financing the remaining €25K. The project is estimated to take six weeks to complete and work is expected to commence on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 when restrictions are eased in respect of the construction industry.

#### **4.4 Marian College Project Update & Request for Additional Funding**

The Committee were informed that Marian College had successfully completed their 2019 grant aided project, which was the conversion of old dressing rooms into a digital hub/computer library. It was noted that the Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Fund contributed €40K to this project.

The Chairperson advised the members that in November 2020 an application for additional funding was received from Marian College. The College requested a commitment from the Community Gain Fund of an annual grant of €90K for the next six years. This funding was to assist with the ongoing costs associated with the operation of their swimming pool and to ensure that the swimming pool remained open and accessible to both the school and the community.

The Chairperson confirmed and recorded that Marian College was advised that the amount requested was in excess of the money available following the award of grants under the 2019 Projects Grant Scheme and that the next Projects Grant Scheme was unlikely to be announced until 2021. In addition, Marian College was informed that the Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Fund does not provide financial assistance for maintenance costs, operational costs or day to day running expenses and would therefore not be in a position to consider this request.

The Chairperson confirmed and advised the members that Marian College received €225K in respect of the Dublin Waste to Energy Projects Grant Scheme 2016 to assist with the construction of a multipurpose sports hall and €100K in in respect of the Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Projects Grant Scheme 2017. It was noted that circa €75K of this sum was used to assist with the relining and refurbishment of their swimming pool and circa 25K was used to purchase gym equipment.

#### **5.1 Cost Centre Reports**

The Committee was informed that the 2016 and 2017 Dublin Waste to Energy Projects Grant Scheme cost centres were now closed as all approved organisations/groups had completed their grant aided projects and had drawn down their allocated grant funding.

With regard to the 2019 Dublin Waste to Energy Projects Grant Scheme cost centre, the Chairperson advised that circa €380K of the €1.7m approved remained to be drawn down.

#### **5.2 Dublin Waste to Energy Community Gain Fund and Possible Timeframe for Launching the next Projects Grant Scheme**

The Committee recorded that there is currently circa €500K available for the next Projects Grant Scheme and it is estimated that Dublin Waste to Energy Ltd. will be contributing approximately €600K to the Projects Grant Scheme in respect of waste treated at the facility in 2020.

The Committee discussed their strategy for the next phase of the projects grant scheme, given that there will be lower amounts of grant funding available going forward. The Committee agreed that before taking any decisions with regard to their strategy, a review should be carried out of the Projects Grant Scheme to date. The Chairperson stated that he would circulate a summary paper outlining the current approach in respect of the management and distribution of the Community Gain Fund. He advised that this document would include an invitation to the members to submit their views on essentially two matters, namely:

- A) Informing applicants in advance of the overall amount available and whether or not the Committee sets a cap/ceiling on the maximum amount of grant available for any project.

- B)** Informing applicants if the Committee wants to support initiatives that will benefit certain projects and specify what those areas are, based on local intelligence, for example elderly support programmes; youth support programmes; cultural and educational projects.

The Chairperson verified that once all the written views, opinions and suggestions were received a further document would be prepared for discussion at the next Committee meeting, which he proposed, should be devoted to the launch and details of the next Projects Grant Scheme. The Chairperson concluded that ultimately, the Committee will decide on the best approach and that this review and invitation for submissions is intended to inform the Committee's next steps and to assist in their deliberations.

The Committee agreed that in the interim an announcement should be made to the Community stating that a Dublin Waste to Energy Projects Grant Scheme would be launched in the Autumn of 2021 and that the details in respect of this would issue in due course.

**Action:**

**Chairperson:** To prepare a summary paper outlining the current approach in respect of the management and distribution of the Community Gain Fund and include an invitation to the members to submit their views.

**Administrator:** To circulate the summary paper and collate the Committee member's responses.

**6. Date and Venue for Future Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 11.30am – 12.30pm.

**Venue:** Zoom Video Conferencing.