



MINUTES OF THE SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2022

- 1 **Presentation on Dublin South City Partnership**
Order: Noted.
- 2 **Presentation on Temple Bar Square Area Improvement**
Order: Noted.
- 3 **Minutes of the South East Area Committee Meeting held on 12th September 2022**
Order: Agreed.
- 4 **Environment and Transportation Department Matters**
 - i. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group Meeting held on 27th September 2022
Order: Noted.
- 5 **College Green Plaza and Related Matters**
Order: Noted.
- 6 **Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department Matters**
 - i. Report on Proposed Part 8 Works at Terenure Library (For information purposes only)
Order: Noted.
- 7 **Planning and Property Management Department Matters**
 - i. Poolbeg West SDZ Planning Update.
Order: Noted.
- 8 **Office of City Recovery Matters**
 - i. Public Domain Report.
Order: Noted.
- 9 **South East Area Office Matters**
 - i. Report of the Director of Services Central and South East.
Order: Noted.

- ii. Report on Proposed Naming and Numbering of a Development at Beach Road, Sandymount, Dublin 4: Shore Club, awaiting translation to Irish.
Order: Agreed.
- iii. Nomination of a member to replace Cllr. Kevin Donoghue on the South Inner City Local Drugs and Alcohol Task Force.
Order: Deferred to November South East Area Committee Meeting.

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Motions

Motion 1 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests an update on when the long promised and approved works at the Donnybrook Cemetery will be carried out.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 2 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests the Manager to have the road surface of the general Gulistan Cottages area examined with a view to a serious upgrade and at a very minimum to have a major road and footpath sweeping and weed clearance undertaken.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 3 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests that a yellow box be installed outside the Ranelagh Medical Centre, Sandford Road, repeatedly requested before and inexplicably refused.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 4 from Councillor James Geoghegan

The South East Area committee recommends that camper vans (vehicles that have multiple sleeping births) be explicitly excluded from the definition of "vehicles" in the 2020 DCC Parking Bye-laws thereby prohibiting the owners from applying for residential parking permits as well as visitors with camper vans from using paid parking; if this motion passes that it be referred to the Transport SPC to see the law amended.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 5 from Councillor James Geoghegan taken with Motion 9 from Councillor Anne Feeney

The South East Area Committee agrees that LED Advertising hoardings of the type used recently in Ranelagh and Rathmines be banned throughout the South East Area.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 6 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area Committee agrees to write to the proprietor responsible for maintaining the clocks in Rathmines village and inquire as to when or how they might be put into working order and what funds are required to see that take place.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 7 Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To the local area manager, councillors, the Parks Department and Arts & Culture SPC re Padel sport for children, adults and elderly, lighter version of tennis.

I am notified by Kevin O'Reilly, co-founder of padel360, a company focused on growing the sport of Padel in Ireland that he is reaching out to highlight where

they see potential to enhance sport facilities in the south east area. It is considered that adding Padel courts to parks or recreational areas could have a positive impact on the local community. Padel is often described as a mixture of tennis and squash and it is now the fastest growing sport in the world. Ireland's growth trajectory is beginning to resemble the early stage growth seen in other European countries, and this is no surprise given the extended Irish sport and tennis culture. It is considered that one example where padel has added value to the community, is in Terenure, Bushy Park, operating in a financially self-sufficient way and is consistently over-subscribed. Further, the following characteristics give some insight into the growth potential of padel in Ireland;

Great form of exercise regardless of age or physical ability, allowing more people to get active.
Excellent space utilisation is made possible by the small court relative to tennis.
Social fun game played only in doubles form. Players see it as a great way to meet new people while keeping fit. -Environmentally friendly; sport is inherently environmentally friendly, particularly padel.
Presently only one facility exists in South Dublin. Padel360 are seeking partnerships with local councils to build and manage padel courts.

Can the Padel sport court be provided in some large park, for instance, in Crumlin?

They have provided a link to their website which I attach here for Parks Dept. and City Council to address.

<http://www.padel360.ie/>

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 8 Councillors Mary Freehill and Dermot Lacey

The successful Swan Leisure Centre is a wonderful resource for the Rathmines and very much appreciated by the local community. The genesis of this service was as a result of the commitment and work of the local community in the early years post 2000. At the time of construction the project had to be curtailed. Because of its current success, it is clear that a building extension is needed to extend the service and cater for the community. Furthermore, Rathmines is very poorly served because of lack of community use buildings. While members of this committee recognise the need to extend the services equally, Rathmines Initiative and local sports clubs remind us of the serious gap in resources in the area.

This committee acknowledges the current administrative and financial success of the centre. Therefore this committee agrees that the City Architect be requested to initiate a scoping exercise and capacity study in consultation with The Swan Leisure Board along with these local groups. A liaison group from this committee could work with local community, Swan Leisure Board and council depts. to develop proposals.

Furthermore it is agreed that the council explore the possibility of using the roof of the crèche (building is in DCC ownership) adjacent to Swan Leisure for solar panels, which could help create energy savings in the leisure centre.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 9 Councillor Anne Feeney taken with Motion 5 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That this Committee calls upon the council to address the situation of granting planning permission to flood lit illuminated advertising hoardings (replacing older

traditional top lit hoardings), where it has an adverse impact on the quality of life for local residents who have to endure bright and flashing lights illuminating their homes at night.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 10 Councillor Mary Freehill

That the working group set up some years ago in conjunction with SDCC to work on issues that impact on both DCC and SDCC be re-established. It's important that we councillors on both local authorities co-operate with each other in relation to Metro South West.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 11 Councillor Mary Freehill

In preparation for the plant sale next year that this committee agree to consult with Harold's Cross Grow or any other appropriate group to look at providing workshops face to face and or zoom on vegetable/herb growing. It would be interesting to become knowledgeable on how to grow vegetables in among flower beds and or window boxes. At the flower plant sale earlier this year, quite a few people asked if we had vegetable plants".

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 12 Councillors Carolyn Moore, Tara Deacy, Anne Feeney, Deirdre Conroy, Mary Freehill and Pat Dunne

This committee does not accept that a safe pedestrian crossing point cannot be provided to help people cross the busy junction at Rathfarnham Road and Terenure Road, the scene of two recent road traffic accidents which have both involved school children trying to get to or from their school. We are calling on the traffic engineers to examine this junction, make a recommendation on the actions needed to make it safer, and urgently allocate funding to implement those measures.

This committee agrees that it is completely unacceptable that outside of the hours where a crossing guard is provided, children and other vulnerable pedestrians are forced to put their personal safety at risk to cross this road, and believes that the onus is not on the NTA to deliver this infrastructure, but on Dublin City Council, whether self-funded or funded by the NTA under the active travel programme.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 13 Councillor Carolyn Moore

This committee requests an urgent intervention from the area manager on the issue of illegal parking on the footpaths on Harold's Cross by vehicles related to ongoing construction at 314 Harold's Cross Road and a new development at 200 Harold's Cross Road. At both locations trade vehicles are parking entirely on the footpath on a regular basis, forcing pedestrians out onto a busy 50km per hour road. (See attached images)

Planning documents for at least one location shows that the construction management plan does not allow for access via Harold's Cross Road, yet bicycle stands have been removed from the pavement here to allow access via the footpath, which is now being used for illegal parking of vehicles.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 14 Councillor Carolyn Moore

This committee requests that a Parks representative would make themselves available to meet with councillors and relevant stakeholders to answer questions about the ongoing issues with parks contractors destroying local biodiversity initiatives. This has now been reported to me by community groups across the

Kimmage Rathmines area and beyond, it's clear that the situation is not improving, and a solution needs to be found.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 15 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn taken with Motion 16 from Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

That Dublin City Council will anchor a taskforce including relevant stakeholders across the Gardaí, social work services, education services, and other relevant stakeholders to effect a short- and medium- term strategy which tackle the root causes driving violent youth anti-social behaviour in Dublin City, and provide a North East Inner City Mulvey Report-type solution for complex social and economic challenges in the south inner city.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 16 Councillor Daniel Ceitinn taken with Motion 15 from Councillor Daniel Ceitinn

That Dublin City Council will ensure the raising of the Sean O'Casey Bridge after 8 pm each evening until before commuting hours each morning for an initial period of 6 weeks in an effort to diminish the attractiveness of the bridge and environs for anti-social gatherings and violent behaviour, as it currently provides a convenient exit route for gangs who are travelling into the area to engage in violent anti-social behaviour which is terrorising the City Quay neighbourhood.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 17 Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee requests an immediate intervention by the Parks Department to bring the soccer pitch in Herbert Park up to reasonable playing standards.

The key issues raised by local football clubs include:

Deep appreciation for the hard work of the ever decreasing staff in Herbert Park,
Request that the grass cutting of the pitch be restored to once a week,
Request that a programme of repairing multiple holes across the pitch be put in place as the present situation is both unsafe and often unsuitable for play,
Request that the aeration machine that is in Herbert Park be used for the purpose it was purchased.

The Committee further requests that the more detailed issues outlined in the letter submitted with this Motion be responded to in detail either at a future Area Committee meeting or the "On Site" meeting in Herbert Park previously agreed by this Committee.

RE: BELMONT FC - HERBERT PARK GRASS PITCHES

Good morning Dermot

Thank you for meeting with Andrea, Manuel and myself yesterday evening it was good to catch up and was a very beneficial.

As an introduction, we would highlight to say that Belmont FC are a humble community football club based at Herbert Park. Belmont FC has been providing boys and girls from the community of Donnybrook and its wider catchment the opportunity to have fun through junior soccer for more than thirty years. Our players come from a variety of schools in the local area, and we are always welcoming of newcomers, whatever their ability. Our ethos is a child-centred one. With over 450 boys and girls wearing the Belmont jersey every week we strive to provide a safe, positive and encouraging atmosphere that allows our players to participate to their potential, irrespective of their abilities. Belmont FC is supported

by a group of volunteers and coaches who give freely of their valuable time in providing a stimulating, challenging, supportive and fun soccer experience to children and young people in the Club.

As discussed, our main issues are with the drop on maintenance standards on the Herbert Park football pitches. As a result of that the surface is visibly uneven, there are multiple holes on the pitches, worn out areas are not repaired, there is a lack of aeration regime (even though it is our understanding that a new machine was purchase for that particular purpose) and finally, the grass on the pitches is not being cut regularly enough resulting on nearly unplayable pitches. In terms of general maintenance, there's visual overgrowth of vegetation in the curtilage of the club house and the roof gutters are visibly blocked.

We would like to highlight the genuine effort that DCC operatives in Herbert Park are doing under the current restrictions applied as result of Covid. We strongly belief that there's not enough manpower in the parks team to cover not Only Herbert Park, but other parks such as Bushy Park, Palmerston Park, Belgrave Square, Ringsend Park, Sean Moore Park, etc., to name a few.

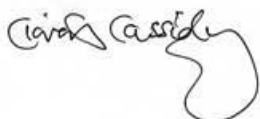
In addition to the pitch maintenance issues, we would like to say that access to additional football pitches would be welcomed anywhere in the area. For the last few years, we have struggled to provide our boys and girls with enough pitch space in Herbert Park to practice football. We are currently unable to cater for the increasing demand to join the club.

As you know we mainly use the Herbert Park grass pitches for matches on Saturday but only have one pitch on Sunday. We also have limited pitch space in Beechhill on Sunday but only when it suits Beechhill United as they are very protective over the pitch and rarely let us play there. As you quite rightly said this pitch is completely underutilised. We find ourselves having to travel to Brickfields Park, Drimnagh to play our home Sunday matches and we do lose some players as a result of this.

We'd need to use the existing pitch space in the Donnybrook/Ballsbridge area more efficiently. Building a full-size Astro pitch in the area and perhaps on the Beechhill pitch would elevate some of ours and other clubs pitch shortage problems. In the meantime, the Council could provide the current pitches with a hybrid grass surface (a mixture of natural grass supported by artificial fibres) that will be able to accommodate considerably more playing hours than the current solution. We are happy to discuss with the Parks department any possible solution.

It is great to start the ball rolling (excuse the pun) and thank you again for taking the time out of your busy schedule to meet us.

Kind Regards



Ciarán Cassidy
Chairman
Belmont FC



Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 18 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to write to O'Callaghan Hotel Group to ask them what their plans are for their site on Sandwith Street and if they can clean up the site which has been left to dereliction, there are problems of illegal dumping and littering in the area and the residents would like something done on this.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 19 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to outline what measures are being undertaken to address the ongoing issue of the misuse of tarmac being dumped on the footpaths around the South East Inner City as an interim fix which is unsightly and a trip hazard. Can the Area Manager please outline why this seems to be the preferred practice of Dublin City Council rather than proper fixing of footpaths and when what can be done to put an end to this and to fix the footpaths in the area properly to make it safer and more attractive?

Order: Deferred to November South East Area Committee meeting.

Motion 20 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to fix the potholes and road surface on Harold's Cross Bridge as a matter of urgency as this is a safety issue for cyclists.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 21 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee Calls on the Area Manager to convene another meeting between the residents, businesses, Dublin City Council, Temple Bar Company, the Gardaí and any other relevant stakeholders to address the ongoing issues in the area.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 22 Councillor Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to please outline the reasons why outdoor seating licences are being revoked in the Portobello Area and can he provide a full report on the issue, including parking demand studies that were carried out on the area.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 23 Councillor Danny Byrne

This committee agrees to write to the Minister for Housing, to request periods such as Christmas and the month of August where planning applications will not be allowed to be made.

We have seen of late attempts to perhaps circumvent oversight of some applications.

Order: Agreed.

Motion 24 Councillor Danny Byrne

That a site visit is made to Denzille Lane to assess residents' concerns about dumping on the lane and waste from commercial premises being inappropriately stored. The site

visit should include local residents.

Order: Report to Councillor.

Motion 25 Councillor Mary Freehill

That this committee examine the strategic decision not to have parks staff/rangers in parks. The consequences of this over the past few years has diminished safety in our parks locally. The most recent case being the young boy who was physically attacked in Bushy Park. We agree to consider whether staff need to be put back in our parks and report back within a month.

Order: Agreed.

11 **Questions to the Chief Executive 10th October 2022**

Order: Noted.

Councillor Dermot Lacey

Chairperson

Monday 10 October 2022

Attendance:

Members:

Dermot Lacey (Chairperson)
Claire Byrne
Deirdre Conroy
Kevin Donoghue
Mannix Flynn
Paddy McCartan

Members:

Danny Byrne
Daniel Céitinn
Pat Dunne
Mary Freehill
Carolyn Moore

Members:

Hazel Chu
Tara Deacy
Anne Feeney
James Geoghegan
Claire O'Connor

Officers

Alison Lyons
Brian Kirk
Iva Geci
Patricia Reidy
Catherine Brophy Walsh
Myles Farrell

Brendan O'Brien
John MacEvilly
Karen Hosie
Philip Dunne
Paul McCann
Yvonne Souhan

Brian Hanney
Owen Keegan
Mairead Owens
Neil O'Donoghue
Fiona O'Brien

Apologies:

Karl Mitchell

Non-Members:

Una Lowry,
Dublin South City Partnership
Pamela Kennedy,
Architect on Terenure Library
Works.