

**The Chairman and Members of
North West Area Committee.**

Meeting: 18th April 2017

Item No: 7

Finglas Area Office Report

Widening of vehicular access to houses on Dunsink Avenue and Dunsink Road

The tender process is near completion. The Roads Maintenance Division has notified both the successful and unsuccessful firms. We are in a “standstill” period during which unsuccessful firms can appeal. If there are no appeals it is hoped that the work will start on site at the end of May.

Update on Kildonan Lands Project

BSM will present their draft report to the group chaired by Rita Burtenshaw, the Independent Facilitator, on the 4th May in the Finglas Office. The report will have three options. In addition to the report there will be a number of photomontages to illustrate potential of site options. Their report will then be amended before they make a presentation to next month’s meeting of the NWAC.

Subsequent consultation during June will include some or all of the following steps:

- Put the plan on public display in the area office / local library / and, possibly, some community facilities;
- Plans to be shown on display boards.
- Put the plan on consultation for a period of one month;
- Give notice of the consultation in a local paper / on the DCC website;
- Distribution of leaflets about the consultation in adjoining estates;
- Draft plan will be available to view online;
- All comments will be collated / responded to in an Area Manager’s report;
- Make any changes to the draft masterplan as deemed appropriate;
- Send Area Managers report to the NWAC Members seeking their approval for the Masterplan.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Community Gatherings

The Finglas East community gathering took place on Tuesday 28th March in Fr. Maloney Hall, Ballygall. Fifteen groups who are based in Finglas East area attended the event. The purpose of the meetings is to invite groups to celebrate and share information about their

organisations and to network informally with each other. It is hoped to have gatherings in Finglas West and Finglas South in June.



Finglas Arts Exhibition

The Community and Social Development Section has organised a community arts and crafts exhibition as part of the Bealtaine Festival. This event will be held on the times and dates below. We are currently linking in with local arts groups in relation to displaying art and crafts work or performing at the music event. This event will be held in St. Canice's Parochial Hall and St. Canice's Church.

Exhibition launch:	Wednesday 31 st May at 12:30pm.
Art exhibition opening times:	Wednesday 31 st May 1pm-3pm and 6pm- 8pm. Thursday 1 st June: 12pm-3pm and 5:30pm-7:15pm.
St. Canices Church performance:	Thursday 1 st June at 7:30pm (invitation only).

Environmental Workshops:

The Community team in association with Global Action Plan will be hosting gardening workshops for members of the public attending the Older Adult Exhibition on Wednesday 24th May. A number of greening neighbourhood workshops (rejuvenation of communal open space) will take place during the summer months with community groups in the Finglas Area.

Finglas Men's Shed.

The Community team initiated the setting up of the Finglas Men's shed in March 2016. The team identified premises in the Abigail Centre. The first gathering of the shed took place on Wednesday 6th April 2016. Ten local men attended the first meeting. Over the coming months Dublin City Council refurbished the premises to include the following: new floor, new kitchen and toilet. The cost of the refurbishment was approximately €15,000. Dublin City Council also provided a pool table and chairs. The project also received a community grant. During the initial stages of their development the Community Team continued to support the group and organised trips to other Men's Sheds and advised them on events that may be of interest to the group. There are now fifteen members and they meet on Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

A number of members now work on a pollytunnel donated by Pavee Point on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Some members of the shed have indicated that they would like to work on producing bird boxes, window boxes and seat benches. The Community team has, in conjunction with the Men's Shed, identified a suitable building for this purpose. The proposal for these additional premises will go before the Board of the Abigail Centre at their next meeting.

Dublin City Council will continue to encourage, support and work with the Men's Shed into the future.

Barnardos Spring Board Project:

Barnardos Spring Board Project provides information, support and advice to families, grandparents, children and young people who are experiencing a difficult time and who need a helping hand.

The project was based in Barry Close for a number of years but recently moved to Mulhuddart. The move took place due to anti-social behaviour and threats to staff.

The Community team worked with Barnardos to identify suitable premises in the Barry area so that the project can resume. The Board of Management of St. Josephs GNS, Barry Avenue, has agreed to let two rooms to the project.

It is anticipated that works on converting the rooms will be completed in a couple of months. Dublin City Council has supported the redevelopment of the rooms by making a contribution of €7,500. The overall cost of the redevelopment is around €25,000.

Finglas West Community Hub:

Finglas West Community Hub which is on the grounds of St. Kevin's BNS is currently not in use. The centre was closed as the facility was left in an unusable state and suffered from an infestation of rats. Issues have developed around the following:

- User groups not making a contribution towards the running costs of the facility. Annually it costs in the region €4,000.00 to run the facility.
- User groups not taking responsibility for cleaning and tidying the facility after use.
- Facility left in a usable state.
- User groups failing to attend meetings on a regular basis.
- Generally user groups failing to take responsibility for the facility.

The Board of Management of St. Kevin's BNS are concerned that continued inactivity of the facility will lead to anti-social behaviour. The facility requires a full time tenant that can manage, maintain and deliver services.

Aidan Maher

Assistant Area Manager