

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

**Meeting: 18th July 2017**

**Item No: 3**

## **Cabra Area Office Report**

### Shared Services Proposal for Cabra Office

Discussions have taken place with the Dublin North West Area Partnership (DNWAP) about the possibility of utilising the Shared Services Model to enable both organisations to operate from the DCC owned office at 97 Cabra Road. If agreement is reached the DNWAP staff in 27/28 Annamoe Terrace will relocate to the Council office.

The proposal would enable an upgrade of the Council Office to be undertaken as part of the redesign. A draft design brief has been prepared by the City Architect's Division. Subject to agreement on design, estimated construction costs and rent it will be possible to deliver a sustainable, best practice example of shared services in our Cabra Office.

### Faussagh Avenue upgrade

We approached Clúid with regard to a proposal to landscape the front of the Broome Lodge development in line with our overall plan to upgrade Faussagh Avenue. They are supportive in principle but, having sought advice from the Planning Department, they were advised that any reduction in the open space within the development for the residents would directly contravene the planning permission. The open space to the front of the scheme was a crucial element for the Planners at the time planning was granted, so a revised application to incorporate the public space is unlikely to be granted permission, and especially not within the time left available for completion.

Given the percentage of older persons in the area and the new residents about to move into the scheme, the Clúid Architect suggests that seating to the front of the scheme and a bus shelter would be more practical and make a real difference to the local community. They could incorporate the seating along the boundary of the site and allow the bus shelter to encroach on the site slightly. We have asked them to explore this option.

### Mount Bernard Playground extension

The Natural Play Area at Mount Bernard Park was completed. However, a post installation inspection identified a small number of snags which are being addressed. The park is now due to open by the weekend of the 15<sup>th</sup> July.

Any questions may be referred to Debby Clarke, DCC Play Development Officer at -  
t: 2225396; m: 086 8150997; e: debbie.clarke@dublincity.ie.

### Navan Road Church car park

The car park had become extensively damaged with large pot holes, particularly in the area adjoining the school. As this facility is extensively used by the Community, DCC agreed to assist with repairs.

### Shandon Area

Badly damaged kerbs on the corner of Shandon Crescent have been replaced and grass verges have been re-seeded on the Road, Park and Crescent. These had been extensively damaged due to the narrowness of roads here.

### Ashington Mews

The Area Office has been liaising with residents regarding complaints of anti-social behaviour coming from the area in the environs of the Ratoath Flyover. We have proposed a number of measures and are also liaising with Irish Rail, Waterways Ireland and the Gardai. However, it should be noted that anti-social behaviour has been a long standing issue in the wider area over the years.

### Ashtown Grove car parking

Residents have been seeking various measures to control parking on these landings and in front of the shops. However, businesses have opposed any measure involving paid for parking and we have now been informed by Traffic Department that DCC cannot consider any measures while property owned by DCC is being assessed for inclusion on the Vacant Sites register. The car parks on either side of the shops fall into this category.

## **Community & Social Development**

### Community Environmental Projects.

The Faussagh Avenue Group organise regular clean-ups and have recently planted up the containers with summer bedding. They would welcome any new residents who would like to get involved.

### Mount Bernard Park

The Parks Tennis Programme will run during the month of July.

### Christ the King Centre

The upgrading of the grounds is well under way and the improvements are making a huge difference to the appearance of the Centre.

### Phibsborough Tidy Towns

The Group is now organising additional clean-ups on Tuesday evenings and continue planting and maintaining the large amount of flower barrels throughout the area. They also link in with the other environmental and residents groups in Phibsborough and the surrounding area.

### St. Peter's Men's Shed

They meet every Tuesday in St Peter's Court at 11am. New members are welcome. The group went on a trip to Belfast recently and are organising some more outings during the summer.

### Community Events

The annual St. Peter's Garden Party took place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June with a large attendance. The annual Shandon Residents Community Day, which was held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July was also well attended.

Both events were supported by DCC through the Community Small Grant Scheme and provision of gazebo's, tables and bunting and staff attended to support activities on the Day.

### Cabra 4 Youth

Held a very successful Fun Day on the Canal to promote the new Kayaking Club on the 24<sup>th</sup> June. Kayaks on the water behind Des Kellys Shop and a barbeque was also organised on the day. Work is in progress on their new base at the disused cottage which was handed over by Waterways Ireland and the group is looking forward to establishing the new Club.

### Summer Camps

Cabra Parkside is running a two week Summer Camp from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July to August 4<sup>th</sup> Monday-Friday with a full programme of activities. Contact the Centre for details.

Naomh Fionnbarra's Campa Shamhraidh ran from 3<sup>rd</sup> July-14<sup>th</sup> July Monday-Friday.

Ventry Park Community Centre has activities throughout the summer and information is available at the Centre.

The Cabra Men's Shed, History Group, Ladies Groups, summer projects and other community and residents groups are all organising their own activities and events so keep in touch locally to find out what is going on in your neighbourhood.

The St Finbarr's Festival will take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in August. The date is to be confirmed and a programme will be available nearer to the time.

### Royal Canal Park.

The Pastoral Worker, Kevin Mullally, is moving to a new area after seven years, during which time he has worked with the community development staff and the residents association establishing links within the community and setting up the parent and toddler groups and other initiatives. We wish him well in his new role.

### Aidan Maher

**Assistant Area Manager**