

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

Meeting: 19th September 2017

Item No: 5

FINGLAS AREA OFFICE REPORT

Update on Kildonan Lands Project

Following public consultation the Lands Framework Study has been completed by Brady Shipman Brady. A summary report has been circulated to members. Pauline Byrne, Partner, BSM will be present at the September meeting of the NWAC to respond to comments from members.



Next Steps

At the July Meeting Councillors requested that a report is presented to the monthly Area Committee meetings outlining progress made in attempting to relocate the Abigail Centre.

The Kildonan site was transferred to Dublin City Council from the OPW for the provision of a day and residential service to meet the needs of vulnerable women with histories of homelessness.

Now that the Site Framework Study has been completed the next step is to establish how the existing service can continue and that the City Council has satisfied the terms of the agreement for the transfer of the lands from the OPW.

The Housing Department has informed our office that they will consider including the lands in the Social Housing Programme when the requirements for the continuation of the service have been determined by the DRHE.

The next Meeting of the group chaired by Rita Burtenshaw, the Independent Facilitator, is scheduled for 4.30 pm on the 21st September.

Brendan Kenny, Assistant Chief Executive, will attend a meeting with the WFTRA Committee and public representatives in the Finglas Area Office at 4 pm on the 27th September.

Liam Mellows Working Group (WG)

The inaugural meeting of the WG was held in the Finglas Area Office on the 6th September. Following the meeting a site inspection was made of the proposed site. The next meeting will be held on the 10th October.

Membership

Cllr Áine Clancy (chair of Group and Chair of Arts and Cultural Advisory Group)

Cllr Micheál Mac Donncha (Ard Mheara)

Cllr Cieran Perry

Gerry Buckley (Liam Mellows Memorial Committee)

Anthony Dunne (Liam Mellows Memorial Committee)

Second representative of the Liam Mellows Memorial Committee

Robert Ballagh (Artist)

Ray Yeates (City Arts Officer)

Ruairí Ó Cuív (Public Art Manager)

Aidan Maher (Finglas Area Office)

NWA Parks Staff changes

Two staff in the Parks Department are the contact points for NWA parks queries:

- a) Fergus O'Carroll, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Ext 3436
- b) Brid Brosnan Executive Parks Superintendent Ext 3144

Finglas Cabra Drug & Alcohol Task Force Coordinator for Finglas Safety Fora

Jackie Phelan resigned on the 1st September to take up a full-time Masters Degree scholarship in DIT. The recruitment process for a successor is underway. It is hoped that a replacement will be appointed next month.

There is no change in dates for fora meetings up to the end of the year. John Bennett will Chair these meetings until the new Co-ordinator commences work.

Community & Social Development

Environmental Workshops:

The Community and Social Development Section worked with Global Action Plan (GAP) on a number of "Greening Neighbourhood Projects" this summer. It is hoped that this collaborative project would benefit groups and give them a better understanding of sustainable and bio diversity planting. The first enhancement project took place in Barry Park in July. An area in the park was planted by residents under the supervision of GAP Ballymun. The second workshop took place in August with the Finglas Tidy Towns Group. The group identified an area at the back of St. Canice's GNS which they wanted to enhance. With the support of Dublin City Council and GAP the Area Enhancement Project was completed in August. It is hoped to build on this successful initiative in 2018.

Finglas Summer Projects:

This year there were six voluntary and one non voluntary summer projects in Finglas. The Finglas Summer projects cater for approximately 700 children. Dublin City Council supported the projects with grant assistance as well as providing summer students to the projects. Dublin City Council would like to acknowledge the great effort made by the committees to the projects.

Positive Wellness Fortnight:

The Finglas Wellness Fortnight is taking place from Sunday 10th September to Friday 22nd September 2017. It was launched on Sunday 10th September 2017 at the Finglas Sports and Fitness Centre, Mellows Road.

The Finglas Wellness Fortnight will include various free events and activities to promote positive wellness. There will be healthy eating workshops, baby massage, FYRC feel good factor workshops, a HIV lunch time seminar, lip sync battles, two wellness walks through Tolka Park, two pamper days (one Youth pamper day), SOS training, Jigsaw workshop, Abigail Centre community fete, and a men's health promotion day in the Finglas Men's Shed.

For further details on any of the events and activities, booklets are available or please contact the Community and Social Development Section on (01) 2225400.

The Finglas Wellness Group is an ad-hoc group of diverse organisations and members of the Finglas Community, who work together to deliver services to help encourage positive mental health and also to educate the wider community with suicide awareness and training in suicide prevention.

The Positive Wellness Group is made up of representatives from the Finglas Suicide Network, Dublin City Council, Finglas Mental Health Association, The Finglas Centre, Finglas Safety Forum, HSE, Dublin North West Area Partnership, Finglas Youth Resource Centre, The Den, Pavee Point, Local Drug Task Force, Dublin City Sports & Wellbeing Partnership and the Community Policing Unit.

Positive Ageing Week:

This year's Finglas Positive Ageing Week takes place from Monday 25th September to Sunday 1st October 2017. There are a number of events taking place including the following:

Monday 25th September: Over 55s Table Quiz
Venue: WFTRA Hall at 2.00pm.

Wednesday 27th September: Senior Citizens Ball
Venue: Erin's Isle GAA Club at 8.00pm.

Please note: there is a charge of €5 per ticket for this year's event. The proceeds of the ticket sales will go to the Finglas Conference of the St Vincent De-Paul Society.

Friday 29th September: Pool Competition
Venue: Merville Court Senior Citizens Complex.

Finglas Fun Day:

Dublin City Council in conjunction with Better Finglas, Finglas Youth Resource Centre, Crosscare, Tusla, Finglas Gardai and Dublin North West Area Partnership ran a Family Fun Day in Farnham Park on Friday 25th August 2017.

The event featured music, sport, dance workshops, art workshops, face painting and of course food. The event was organised to bring communities together for a fun filled afternoon, a number of residents from Baleskin Refugee Centre attended the event.

Approximately 750 people attended the event.



Street Feasts Finglas

Dublin City Council and Finglas Community & Social Development Section, in conjunction with Street Feast Ireland, organised a number of street parties in the Finglas area in June. A total of 18 street parties took place in the Finglas area. The purpose of the events is to bring neighbours together at a safe and family friendly event.

2018 Finglas Fright Night

Dublin City Council is currently working to deliver the “Finglas Fright Night Halloween Festival”. The Festival has proven to be very popular over the years and has greatly assisted in reducing anti-social behaviour and bonfires in the area. The event will once again take place in the Finglas Civic Centre, Mellows Road on 31st October 2017. Community input into the event is a vital part of its success.

Dublin City Council Community/Informal Adult Education Grants Scheme 2018

The grants scheme is now open. Closing dates for applications is Friday 27th October 2017. Completed applications must be returned to:

**Community and Social Development
Block 3, Floor 1
Civic Offices, Wood Quay.
Dublin 8**

Application forms for the 2018 Community Grant Scheme are available from Dublin City Council through their Local Area Offices, City Libraries and the Community & Social Development Section.

Applications can also be downloaded from Dublin City Council's website: www.dublincity.ie and are also available through Irish.

Aidan Maher
Assistant Area Manager