

**Area Manager's Report  
South Central Area Committee  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**CRUMLIN/KIMMAGE ELECTORAL AREA**

**South West Inner City Area Report**

**St. Thomas Abbey Conference**

A symposium/conference is being held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October in St Catherine's Church, Thomas Street to raise awareness of the role that St. Thomas Abbey played in medieval Dublin from its establishment in the 12<sup>th</sup> century until its closure in the sixteenth century. St. Thomas Abbey occupied a large tract of land to the south of Thomas Street for 400 years with its influence extending over a far wider area. The speakers at the conference are well known in the academic field and will address the history of the Abbey, the role of the abbots, current excavations in the area etc. The conference will be aimed at as wide an audience as possible. A series of community events will take place the previous day which will involve local schools and other interested groups. It is also intended to launch a new book on the history of St. Thomas Abbey later this year.

The weekend of celebrations is as follows:

- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October - Community events, children's medieval dress up pageant, bell ringing, medieval chanting, arts & crafts and other family events
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30 to 17.30 – All Day Symposium with International Speakers in St. Catherine's Church, Thomas Street

Councillors are invited to attend some or all of these events. Further details (including the programme for the symposium) will be made available later this month. It should be noted that those attending the symposium may select the talk(s) that they have a special interest in and are not obliged to commit to the full day.

**New Public Park, Cork Street**

Works to develop a 0.6 hectare neighbourhood park on the site of the demolished Chamber Court flats on Cork Street commenced in February and are now complete with the park opening to the community on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September. The official opening is due to take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

**St. Audoen's Park, High Street**

St. Audoen's Park is included in the Liberties Greening Strategy. As part of the proposed improvements to High Street it is planned to enhance the area by improving accessibility, permeability and circulation throughout the park.

A Part 8 planning application for the project was agreed at the July 2016 City Council meeting. It is expected that work will commence next month.

It was agreed at the July Area Committee to initiate a Part 8 Planning Application in respect of a Play Garden in the Park. The Garden will be a National Remembrance Garden for the children who died in the Easter Rising of 2016 and will include play equipment and enhanced biodiversity. It is expected that the Part 8 application will be advertised shortly.

### **New Public Park, Bridgefoot Street/Island Street**

Plans to develop a high quality neighbourhood park at Bridgefoot Street have been re-activated and public workshops were held on 20<sup>th</sup> April and 15<sup>th</sup> June in St. Catherine's Church, Thomas Street. Following agreement at the July Area Committee meeting a Part 8 planning application for the project was advertised on 28<sup>th</sup> July. A copy of the plan was available for inspection in the Planning Department in the Civic Office for 6 weeks from that date. If the application is agreed construction works are likely to commence in 2018.

### **Oscar Park**

It is planned to install seating as part of the central feature in Oscar Square, Dublin 8. This work is due to take place in later this month.

### **Crane Street/Sugar House Lane**

A Part 8 planning application to enhance pedestrian access along this important and busy tourist route was agreed at the November 2016 City Council meeting. The works include the widening of the existing footpaths and the narrowing of the carriageway. Construction works commenced on 21<sup>st</sup> August with an expected completion date of mid November.

### **Newmarket**

A Part 8 Planning Application was agreed at the July 2017 City Council meeting to improve and enhance the use and attractiveness of Newmarket Square and its environs.

### **Weaver Park**

The Park is now open and the formal opening will take place on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am. Following discussions between the Chair of the Arts SPC and the Deputy CEO it was understood that the Housing land adjacent to and within the urban footprint of the Park could be considered as a location for Artists Studios. The Arts Office invited the Chair of the SPC and the Area Manager to a meeting with the Arts Council in the Arts Office to discuss the feasibility of this location for this purpose. Subsequent to that meeting it is understood that Housing indicated that the space would be used for Housing and not for Artists Studios. Since that meeting we have been informed by the CEO that there is a high level group examining options and locations for Artists Studios and all suggestions and proposals must be submitted to this Group.

### **Francis Street**

A Part 8 Planning Application was agreed at this month's City Council meeting to provide for a more pedestrian friendly environment which encourages people to visit Francis Street and its environs on foot. The plan also supports the continued commercial operation of the Arts and Antiques quarter.

### **Dolphins Barn**

A Public Realm Improvement Plan for Dolphins Barn is being finalized and will be presented at an upcoming Area Committee meeting with a view to proceeding with a part 8 planning application.

The Area Office will install three planters at the front of the Spar in Dolphins to address traffic and safety issues arising from Cars parking at this spot. The issue will be further addressed on a long term basis in the Public realm Improvement Plan.

### **St. Luke's Church**

Works in relation to the conservation and adaptive reuse of St. Luke's Church are ongoing. Dublin City Council is, at the same time, creating a small urban park in the north graveyard (facing St. Luke's Avenue) and carrying out improvements to the south graveyard (access via Newmarket Square). Works to both graveyards commenced in June and are due to be

completed in October whilst works to the church building are also expected to be completed in late autumn.

### **St. Teresa's Gardens**

Phase 1 of the St. Teresa's Gardens Regeneration Masterplan is now complete following the demolition of the 6 blocks on the Eugene Street side of the site. The refurbishment of 2 blocks at the front of the complex is also complete. A Contractor is now on site to demolish the 2 rearmost vacant blocks whilst tenders have been issued for the demolition of the final 2 blocks with the one remaining tenant due to be rehoused shortly.

A new part 8 Planning Application for 4 additional housing units (increasing the number of houses/apartments to 54), an enhanced park and an interim pitch is due to be lodged in October. A cost plan for the development has been forwarded to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

A revised plan is being prepared for Precinct Improvement Works in the area between the refurbished blocks.

The Development Framework Plan for St. Teresa's Gardens was endorsed by Councillors on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The Plan includes housing, community facilities, parks, open space and traffic alignments.

### **Dolphin House**

A part VIII planning application was approved at the October 2014 City Council meeting for demolition, new build and refurbishment at Dolphin House (phase 1). A total of 96 existing flats will be replaced by 100 new units. The demolition of the 2 'canal' blocks was completed in early 2016 whilst the new build and refurbishment commenced on 17<sup>th</sup> October last year and are progressing satisfactorily. Work is scheduled to be completed in Autumn 2018.

Planning permission was granted to Fold Housing Association in November 2016 for 42 units of older persons apartments with a community centre at a site to the rear of the football pitch. Construction is expected to start in late September 2017. It would be the intention to transfer the existing tenants in Dolphin Park to the new dwellings. Dolphin Park, which consists of 44 bedsits, would then be demolished to allow for new housing to be developed on the site.

### **Liberties Business Forum**

The Liberties is one of three area's in the city nominated by Dublin City Council to take part in the inaugural nationwide '**Ireland's Most Enterprising Town' awards**. The awards are an initiative of Bank of Ireland and aim to recognise local business, enterprise and community involvement. The Liberties is competing against over 70 other towns and villages across Ireland, including Ballymun and Docklands in Dublin city. A judging event for The Liberties took place on 25<sup>th</sup> August and included a presentation at Teeling Distillery Newmarket and a walkabout of the area to meet local businesses and view the renewal taking place. A decision on the awards is expected in October.

On 10<sup>th</sup> October, Dublin City Council and The Liberties Business Forum will host an **Investor Morning & Area Expo** for The Liberties at The Digital Exchange on Crane Street. The event forms one half of an 'Enterprise Day' for The Liberties, with a partnering event by Bank of Ireland James Street taking place in the afternoon. The Investor Morning is an opportunity to engage with investors, agencies and businesses with an interest in the area, and to outline some of the ongoing developments and initiatives taking place in The Liberties.

St Catherine's Graveyard Park: The Area Office and Parks Department are undertaking continuing work to enhance this small park off Thomas Street and improve its usability. Planting in the park will be progressively changed and improved in the coming season

including the removal of some trees along the east side of the park to let in light, reduce a concentration of antisocial behaviour and protect a national monument, a 17th century section of wall. It is intended to introduce new specimen trees and spring bulbs to improve the park. The Area Office has also commissioned a scope and methodology for conservation works to the east wall and adjoining Catherine's Lane West. It is hoped to undertake physical works in 2018.

### **Improvement works at Durrow Road/Lismore Road**

The footpaths on the 'green' at Durrow Road/Lismore Road were upgraded in July. As part of the works, which were funded from the South Central Area Discretionary Fund 2017, additional trees will be planted later this year. Similar improvement works to the Bangor Circle are due to take in November (after Halloween).

### **St. Michael's Hill/Christchurch**

Works to install an automatic signalled pedestrian crossing at the top of St. Michael's Hill/Winetavern Street between Christchurch Place and High Street are due to commence in October/November. This is a very busy crossing on a main tourist route and the provision of pedestrian lights will greatly aid road safety at this location.

## **BALLYFERMOT/DRIMNAGH ELECTORAL AREA**

### **Ballyfermot Road Public Realm Improvement Plan**

A further meeting in relation to the draft design proposal was held on 8<sup>th</sup> September and matters arising are being considered.

### **Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Community Report**

The City Council have identified a number of locations that Age Action Ireland are going get involved in improvement projects throughout the area mainly in senior citizens complexes and community garden areas.

### **Community Grants**

The Community Grant scheme for 2018 is now open for application. Grant assistance is available for community and voluntary activity and informal adult education initiatives. Posters and Application forms are being circulated to community groups and local Libraries. Application forms are available from [www.dublincity.ie](http://www.dublincity.ie)

The time line for 2018 Community Grants scheme is as follows:

September 2017	Opening date for applications
October 27 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Closing Date
January 17 <sup>th</sup> 2018	Pre Area Committee information meeting
February 21st 2018	Final Report presented to SC Area Committee.

### **Positive Aging Week 2017.**

To support Positive Aging week in the Ballyfermot /Drimnagh area the City Council are supporting one key event in the Bluebell Youth and community Centre on maintaining brain health and cognitive function. The talk by Sabina Brennan from the institute of Neuroscience, Trinity College will focus on understanding dementia risk and protective factors to establish how decline in cognitive function can be prevented. Community organisations and older people from the entire area will be invited to attend.

Time 7:30Pm

Date 29<sup>th</sup> Sept.

Venue Bluebell Youth and Community Centre

### **Comhairle**

10 young people from the South central Area are actively involved with Comhairle and have been working on the topic of Homelessness, particularly Youth Homelessness. They have met with various organisations and people who support, work with and advocate for young people who are experiencing homelessness e.g. EPIC, Focus Ireland, Simon Community, Regional Homeless Executive and Tusla.

The Comhairle group decided to focus on Children in care and to highlight the challenges that they face when leaving care at 18.

Comhairle young people will have a stand at Zeminar in the RDS for two days on the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> October. They will host debates around topics such as Youth Homelessness, Environment and Education.

Comhairle A.G.M. will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> in Croke Park.

### **Halloween**

Dublin City Council are working with residents and Youth organisations in Ballyfermot and Drimnagh to organise a programme of events to attract young people and keep them busy on Halloween. The final programme will be available at the next meeting.

In Ballyfermot the programme includes a Zombie run in Markievicz Park, A family event in middle Ballyfermot and a party and fireworks in Cherry Orchard. The Youth Organisations are working together on events and will keep services open over the Halloween.

In Drimnagh the programme includes a Zombie Run in Brickfield Park, A Family Show in Our Lady's Hall, Mourne Road and a Youth Event in St. John Bosco Youth centre.

Community and Youth organisations are becoming more involved in organising events over the Halloween period and it is a valuable piece of community work to support and nurture.

### **Ballyfermot /Chapelizod**

Cherry Orchard: Preparations are well underway to greet the twenty four families as they move to their new homes. Welcome packs and a planned schedule of events will help introduce them to the area. The Orchard Community Centre's new manager is installed and is working closely with the community team to expand the range and scope of the centre's community activities. D10 BE WELL The City Council is supporting the work of the Ballyfermot / Chapelizod Partnership to strengthen D 10BE Well to look at how organisations are coping and responding to suicide in the area and identify short and long term responses and supports that would benefit the community.

### **Drimnagh / Walkinstown / Bluebell**

A new Tidy Towns committee has formed in Drimnagh. The group have carried out two community clean ups and are working with residents from Inchicore to organise a joint clean up of the canal. The City Council will support this group.

### **Kilmainham/Inchicore**

#### **Tuesdays at the Outhouse -"A Sense of Place - Past Present Future - Kilmainham and Inchicore" Autumn/ winter 2017 Series of Talks**

Kilmainham Inchicore Network, along with DCC Community Office, Cathy Scuffil, DCC Historian in Residence and the OPW are hosting a series of FREE talks over the coming months discussing Kilmainham and Inchicore in the past, the present and the future.

The series starts Tuesday 12th September at 7:00PM in the Outhouse, in the grounds of Kilmainham Courthouse. 5 talks will take place between now and Christmas 2017 including the following speakers: Prof Frank Barry, Peter Rigney, George Boyle and Dr Frank Cullen

Booking: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-sense-of-place-kilmainham-inchicore-past-present-future-first-talk-of-5-tickets-37609553186>

### **Kilmainham/Inchicore Network (KIN)**

-**Vincent St West Lighting** has been improved, one new pole has been erected plus replacement of three existing poles. Light fittings have been replaced with LED lanterns. This is one of the discretionary funding projects.

-**Inchicore Shop Front Improvement Scheme** – 65 units in village, 46 eligible, potentially 11 interested, 8 applied with 5 in receipt of grant to date, further documentation required for others.

-**KI FEST** took place the last weekend in August, across many venues and places in Kilmainham and Inchicore. Poetry reading, singing, dancing, an art exhibition, fishing, documentary film viewing and a family fun day were included among the many events

-**Series of Talks** organized by KIN, DCC Community Office and Historian in Residence: **“A Sense of Place- Kilmainham and Inchicore - Past Present and Future”** at the Outhouse, Kilmainham Courthouse, at 6.30pm on Tuesdays. The following are the first two in a series of five, see: [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) for booking details.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September Peter Keenahan – New Research on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Century Kilmainham

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October Prof Frank Barry – “Manufacturing Firms in Kilmainham and Inchicore from the early days of the Free State”.

-A **Strategic one year Review of the KIN** took place on 11<sup>th</sup> September. It was decided that more statutory stakeholders, such as educational institutions and representatives from other residents associations in the Kilmainham and Inchicore area will be asked to attend as well as replacements for those groups unable to attend.

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### **Meeting with Gardai in accord with Area Committee Motion**

A meeting was held in accord with the Gardai in Ballyfermot on Policing Issues and attended by the Local Policing Forum Community Representatives, the Area Manager and the Housing and Community Managers DCC. On Police numbers it was confirmed that additional Gardai would be assigned to Ballyfermot Station from October. At the meeting the number stated was ten and recently this was updated to nine additional gardai.

### **California Hills**

A key and recurrent issue of concern was the vandalism and anti-social behavior that happens on California Hills. The Area Manager took the initiative of inviting the urban Landscape designers who worked on Weaver Park and our Parks department to walk the area with a view to presenting design options visually to stimulate debate, action and investment to address the issues. The Area Manager will meet with the Parks Manager to develop this brief and the Area Office will facilitate a participation and consultation process with residents and concerned stakeholders.

## **South Central Area working with Dublin's Culture Connects Update September 2017**

The Dublin's Culture Connects programme builds engagement and connection through conversations and partnerships that are meaningful to the citizens. Dublin's Culture Connects is a catalyst, bringing people together through culture.

Each Area Office is working together on the lead projects of The National Neighbourhood, building cultural projects in neighbourhoods, connecting artists, groups and villages with libraries, museums and creative places to deepen their understanding of each other and themselves. The South Central area is partnered with the Dublin City Local Area Office, Dublin City Library and Archive, Dublin City Arts Office, The Irish Museum of Modern Art, and the Chester Beatty Library for this season.

### **Outreach and Engagement Activity in South Central Area**

In the last number of weeks, with the support of the Area offices Community Development team, the Dublin's Culture Connects' Engagement team & Project Managers have so far met with community members from neighbourhoods including Crumlin, Kilmainham, Ballyfermot, Drimnagh, Walkinstown, and Inchicore.

This includes people ranging in age from 10 to 65+ from groups such as Arts and Crafts, history, knitting, writing, health and fitness, men's sheds, mother & toddler groups, youth clubs, doctors and health professionals from St James' hospital, The Digital Hub, the Memory Lane Choir and many more. Many have participated in Tea & Chats, Culture Club and art projects through Engage the City workshops.

The Engagement team will continue to meet, chat and play with communities from across the region. The stories we hear at our Engagement events influence the themes of The National Neighbourhood.

Any groups you think may be interested in taking part in Tea & Chats, Culture Club or Engage the City, please email: [info@dublinscultureconnects.ie](mailto:info@dublinscultureconnects.ie).

### **Citywide – Fundraising Fellowship, Dublin**

*Business to Arts* and Dublin's Culture Connects, as part of the [Fundraising Fellowship](#), Dublin, are hosting an 'Introduction to Fundraising for Community Groups' on Tuesday 14 November from 6.00-9.00pm at Wood Quay Venue. Places can be booked for your local groups by emailing: [info@dublinscultureconnects.ie](mailto:info@dublinscultureconnects.ie).

### **About Dublin's Culture Connects**

Dublin's Culture Connects, an initiative of Dublin City Council, is a programme of activities and projects that seek to build engagement and connection/re-connection in the city through partnerships that are meaningful to its citizens. These projects include the Fundraising Fellowship, Dublin; The National Neighbourhood; Cultural Map, and the EU Lab. They focus on creating space for experimentation, modeling new partnerships, and testing ways of working to drive the transformative power of culture and community. The role of culture has been positioned by Dublin City Council as central to its corporate policy, acknowledging its impact on all aspects of the city, including the economy, education, tourism and community. Dublin's Culture Connects is mandated with beginning the implementation of Cultural Strategy for Dublin City Council, seeking social change through culture, new relationships and partnerships.




**South Central Area Committee**

Re: Iveagh Market, 20-27 Francis Street and 8 Lamb Alley

Please find set out below a synopsis of recent correspondence between Dublin City Council and Mr. Martin Keane re the above.

- 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017** Dublin City Council request Mr Keane to submit a detailed plan for the development of the Iveagh Markets and adjoining site within 8 weeks.
- 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017** Representative of Mr Keane replied that progress of the development has not been to their satisfaction but had come about due to external circumstances out of their control.
- 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017** DCC reiterate request of the 30<sup>th</sup> May requesting that the detailed plan be submitted by 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017.
- 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017** Representative of Mr Keane replies that he will not be making a submission by the 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017 but is currently working on a new planning application.
- 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017** DCC reply noting his comments and advising that any new application would require the permission of Dublin City Council.

  
Paul Clegg  
Executive Manager