

**Culture, Recreation and Economic Services Department  
Civic Offices, Dublin 2**

**The Chairman and Members of  
the South East Area Committee**

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- (a) Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) & Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) (Part 8)**  
**(b) Local Government Act 2001 (as amended)**
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In compliance with the provisions of Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and in compliance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2001 and pursuant to the requirements of the above, notice is hereby given of Dublin City Council's intention to carry out the following works:

**Refurbishment of Temple Bar Square Dublin 2.**

This is a public realm refurbishment project comprising upgrade of square and adjacent streets to allow for more public and cultural activities. The proposals include the removal of the existing street furniture, trees, outdoor seating terraces and replacement with new street furniture, new tree planting, seating and public lighting. The proposals include all necessary service, utility and associated site works.

The square is to be extended as a single surface across the adjoining streets of Temple Bar, Crown Alley and Fownes Street to the adjoining buildings. It is also proposed to fully pedestrianise Temple Bar Square and Crown Alley and exclude regular vehicular traffic from these areas.

The measures taken will lead to a significant improvement in disability access to the project area and support the principle of universal access for all.

The project proposal was developed in collaboration with residents, business owners and stakeholders as part of an open participative process.

**Observations:**

A number of observations/objections have been received in regard to the proposed Part 8 development.

- Temple Bar Company supports the proposed Part 8 Application and welcomes the development of the space. The submission makes a number of points:
  - Bollards should be used to exclude traffic from the pedestrian zone
  - Fownes Street Upper should be included in the overall proposal to allow for its refurbishment and improvement
  - The communal seating is welcome. However, no one entity should monopolise the use of this space

- Temple Bar is a Cultural Quarter of the City and this should be reflected in the design of the space, for example in the form of artists' work embedded in the surface stone work or in street furniture.
  - A public toilet should be accommodated within the proposal
  - A managed construction plan should be put in place to ensure businesses and residents are fully informed of works
  - An architectural supervisor should be appointed
- The Westin Hotel, Dublin supports the proposed refurbishment of the square and the new space will enhance both the tourist and local residents' experience of Temple Bar and Dublin
  - The Porterhouse, Temple Bar supports the proposed works and states that the refurbishment of the square is a significant step in enhancing the appearance and accessibility of Temple Bar
  - Temple Bar Gallery & Studios write to support the proposed development of the Square, agree with the removal of outside terracing and state that the simplicity of design will be much more fitting to a flexible and democratic use of the space
  - Gourmet Burger Kitchen is in favour of refurbishing the square. However, it is considered that the proposed development in its current form will have a substantial negative impact on their business
  - Hughes & Associates Solicitors on behalf of Café Vivaldi state that the proposal will have a detrimental impact on their business.
  - Barnacles Hostel, Dublin supports the redevelopment of the square
  - John Spain Associates on behalf of Benqueues Ltd, trading as Bad Ass Café object to the proposed development due to the perceived negative impact that the change to outdoor seating will have on their business.
  - Further general submissions have stated:
    - A number of observations have supported the idea that the outdoor terraces around the square are removed and the creation of centralised outside terrace is likely to have a positive impact on the square and surrounding environs
    - The proposal presents the opportunity to include a space or structure for advertising which would be useful to advertise various cultural events and / or promote culture and tourism
    - Few places in Dublin have decent outdoor areas for restaurants and it would be undesirable to completely eliminate them from the street
    - Allow more flexibility regarding seating which could be removed with notice, if an event is occurring
    - The use of cobbles is not family friendly and is unsafe
    - The square should be completely free of all obstacles including benches, trees signage to allow all year round use by various organisations for setting up various tables, temporary shops, pop ups etc.
    - The cobblestones should not be removed as they are a unique characteristic of the city
    - Further planting and greening is required and should be integrated into the design
    - Mature trees should not be removed
    - The proposed scheme is more in keeping with the 1991 Temple Bar Architectural Framework Plan

- There is no reference to the issue of noise in the proposed development and that a city bye-law prohibiting the use of external loudspeakers by pubs, restaurants cafés and shops is required

The proposed development will provide an open and inviting space for future visitors and in terms of its practical use; will provide seating facilities and an important space for hosting cultural events.

It is noted that a number of local businesses have objections to the removal of the existing outdoor terracing to their premises. It is considered, however, that a centralised seating area to the east side of the square will allow the size of the square to significantly increase and discontinue the encroachment of private businesses onto public lands. This freeing up of public space is likely to complement the conservation area by enhancing the visual amenity of the space with the removal of garish signage, clutter, hoarding etc. and is likely to support and enhance the amenity value for both local and visitors alike.

The nature and scale of the proposed development would not seriously injure the amenity of property in the vicinity. The proposed development accords with both the City Development Plan and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The area committee, as appropriate, were informed of the initiation of the Part 8 planning process for the proposed development at its meeting on July 2017. We now wish to inform the area committee that the managers' report is to be submitted to the city council at the November meeting.

The manager's report will be submitted to the city council pursuant to Section 138 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) subject to the provisions of Section 139 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

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**Leslie Moore**  
**City Parks Superintendent**