



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

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

Meeting: 17th October 2017

Item No: 22

Ballymun Area Office Report

- 1. Community Update**
- 2. Housing/Estate Management**
- 3. Ballymun Economic Development/Town Civic Alliance**
- 4. Safer Ballymun/Drumcondra Glasnevin**

1. Community Update

General Community

Community team members attended the following meetings: Axis Events Meetings, Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre, Otherworld Festival Meetings, Setanta GAA, Aisling Poppintree, Acorn Empowerment, Santry Community Centre, Poppintree Community Centre, Muck and Magic Community Garden, Sports Development Officers.

Social Inclusion

Older Persons

Community team members linked with the following groups: Active Living, Positive Aging Committee, Solas, St Pappin's Bowling Group, BADIG, Age Friendly Alliance Group.

Ladies Groups

Ongoing support was provided to the Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre as they continue to grow their user groups. Community team members provided ongoing support to Sillogue Ladies Group as they plan for their Witches Brew Café in the Otherworld 2017 and Christmas Craft Activities. Team members also liaised with Ballymun All Sorts Ladies Group in relation to Otherworld and Christmas Activities.

Men's Sheds

Continued meetings took place with the Ballymun Men's Shed Association and DCU in relation to the proposed refurbishment of Buildings in DCU Community Garden to house the Ballymun Shed. Continued meetings took place with the Irish Men's Shed Association including attendance and assistance with the AGM which took place in the Ballymun Civic Offices Council Chambers on Friday the 15th September.

Mental Health

Team members attended the Mojo Inter-Agency Group meeting and liaised with the Acorn Empowerment Group around their mental health support group.

Environmental

The Community team worked alongside the Public Domain staff to organise and run the annual City Neighbourhood Awards Ceremony which took place on Thursday the 7th September in the atrium of the Ballymun Civic Offices. The event was very successful with many of the major awards being won by Ballymun Community Groups. Further wins were secured at the Awards Final in Croke Park on Thursday the 21st September including the D11 Transformers (representing the Poppintree Courts in Ballymun) who triumphed to become the overall winner in the Residential Section, the Rediscovery Centre who came second in the Business Environmental and Sustainability Initiative. Doon Court Environmental Group and Knowth and Druid Court also picked up major gongs for their environmental endeavours. Ongoing meetings took place with Public Domain staff also in relation to local environmental initiatives and distribution of planters, blue bags, brushes etc.

Events

Continued meetings have taken place with the Otherworld Working Group as we work towards the biggest and best Otherworld Festival ever. Along with the usual spooktacular fun activities such as Circus Gerbola, Fireworks, Main Stage Area, new developments this year include a revamped interactive all singing and dancing zombie parade, story telling sessions in Muck and Magic Community Garden, the premier of new theatre production 'Glimmer' in

Axis Ballymun, a craft tent, a spooky tunnel, a bigger 'Witches Brew Café', a Zombie Enclosure and a new music tent that will showcase new local talent and feature a live broadcast from Near FM. The working group is made up of representatives from Axis Ballymun, DCC Community team members, BRYR, Poppintree Youth Project, Youthreach Ballymun, Aisling Transition, B4B, Sillogue Ladies Club, Ballymun All Sorts Parents Group, Ballymun Community Gardens, Ballymun Men's Shed Association and local community artists.

Positive Aging Week took place from Monday the 25th September until Wednesday the 4th October with the committee organising events and activities on behalf of approx 150-200 older persons from Ballymun, Whitehall and Santry. Highlights included the Mystery Tour to Lough Rinn Castle, Theatre Production Radio Rosario at Axis Theatre, Ballroom of Romance at Setanta GAA and a Red Hurley Concert at Marewood Court.

A Sports Expo for Ballymun and surrounding area was organised by the Sports Development Officers and the Community Team Members. This took place on Saturday the 23rd September in Poppintree Community Centre from 12pm-4pm. Although 11 sports organisations/community groups had originally signed up to showcase at the event, only 5 ended up there on the day. A lot of work went into the organising of the event, however, it was not well attended by local people which might mean either the day did not suit local people or that local people are already very aware of local Sports and Leisure Clubs/Organisations.

2. Housing/Estate Management Updates

C.C.T.V

The C.C.T.V system is working well. The work on upgrading the system is continuing on a phased basis throughout the year - this includes replacing some cameras and upgrading the control room. We are at present working with the Parks Section on identifying trees which are restricting the images the cameras are receiving. These trees will be pruned in the coming weeks.

Cleansing / Waste Management

Waste Management and the Area Office are continuing to combat illegal dumping at open spaces. These measures include using the C.C.T.V system to monitor and identify those responsible. The area office has targeted illegal dumping around Carton, Whiteacre and Knowth Court and tenants have been called for interview and warned about their behaviour.

Ballymun Lettings January – September 2017

Allocation Category	Housing List	Transfer List
Band 1 Priority		
Welfare	6	1
Travellers	1	
Surrendering Larger		1
Medical	2	4
Homeless	23	
Regen		
Band 2	14	6

Band 3	10	14
Sub Total	56	26
Total Lettings	82	

Estate Management January - September 2017

No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Drug Related	42
No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Not Drug Related	167
No of other Complaints	
Total Complaints	209
No of Anti Social Interviews per 1997 act	48
No of Other Interviews	30
Total Interviews	78
No Requests for mediation	
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	
No of Section 20 Evictions	
No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti Social Behaviour	
No of Tenancy Warnings sent to Central Unit	
No of Court Orders Granted	
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	

Ballymun Rent Assessment Update	
	September 2017
Assessments	199
Permissions To Reside	14
Refunds	8
Opening of Accounts	29 (including 6 successions + 4 Inter-transfers)
Closing of Accounts	9 (including 4 inter-transfers)

Front Counter Calls	354
Window Replacements	6

Ballymun Voids

Address	Number	Type	
Forestwood Ave	62	2 Bed	Under Repair
Carton Way	12	1 Bed	Under Repair
Poppintree Cres	49	2 Bed	Under Repair
Carton Terrace	6	2 Bed	Under Repair
Coultry Terrace	18	2 Bed	Under Repair
Owensilla	6	2 Bed	Under Repair
Whiteacre Place	34	1 Bed	Under Repair
Woodhazel Close	13	1 Bed	Under Repair
Hollytree Terrace	15	2 Bed	Under Repair
Carton Road	10	4 Bed	Under Repair
Gateway Gardens	11	3 Bed	Under Repair
Dolmen Way	13	2 Bed	Under Repair
Whiteacre Close	16	3 Bed	Under Repair
Carton Road	2	3 Bed	Under Repair
Shangan Road	318	3 Bed	Under Repair
Shangan Road	312	2 Bed	Under Repair
Balcurris Park West	32	2 Bed	Under Repair
Senior Citizens			
Hampstead Court	15	OPU	Under Repair
Burren Court	22, 24, 26, ,40,12	OPU	Under Repair
Botanic Avenue	139, 147,115,119	OPU	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gdns	23,27	OPU	Under Repair
Pyrite Refurb			
Sandyhill Terrace	5	2 Bed	
Doon Court	8	3 Bed	
Owensilla	53	3 Bed	
Druid Court	45	3 Bed	
Pyrite Long Term			
Carton Court	12	2 Bed	
Carton Court	1	3 Bed	
Carton Court	5	2 Bed	
Owensilla	3	4 Bed	

Residents Groups Clean-ups

There was a clean up organised of Coultry Park on Saturday 7th October 2017. Staff members from the Ballymun Civic Centre along with the residents from the area helped to paint walls in the area which were covered in graffiti.



Halloween

Staff from the new Public Domain Unit in Ballymun are involved in a leaflet drop around Ballymun in relation to bonfire prevention in the area. There are four phone numbers on the circulars delivered to households to let them know where they can report stockpiling in the North West Area.

Seating

Staff in the Public Domain Unit in Ballymun are looking to identify six locations along the Ballymun Road where they can put in seating.

3. Ballymun Economic Development/Town Civic Alliance

Economic Strategy

The next economic sub-committee meeting will take place on Thursday 19th October.

Stimulating economic activity

Start-Up Ballymun

The next StartUp Ballymun event '**Boost Your Business**' will take place on Thursday 16th November. Aimed at start-ups and owners of small businesses, we present:

- a panel of entrepreneurs to share their stories of growing a business, with an emphasis on how digital technology has enabled the business to compete with larger companies
- a speaker from the [IEDR](#), the Irish Internet Domain Registry, sharing their market intelligence on where digital opportunities exist
- information and guidance from local enterprise partners
- free mentoring from the expert mentors of [LEO Dublin City](#)
- real-time evaluations of your on-line social media presence (for businesses only) from digital business advisers
- network with our panel and other business owners

All the latest news and updates can be found on Facebook: Start-up Ballymun and twitter: @startupballymun

Ballymun4Business (B4b)

Enterprising Towns Awards

On Tuesday 3rd October, the judges from the Enterprising Towns Award came to visit Ballymun. The visit was a great success and the judges were treated to a sample of the marvellous creativity, innovation, community engagement, social partnership, sustainability and leadership that exists in Ballymun. We started off with a brief visit to the new Credit Union in the Civic Centre where they were greeted by Sinead Rooney. In the Council Chambers there was a great mix of community & enterprise on display and the judges met with the Ballymun Market, Tidy Towns, Ballymun Adult Read & Write, Funky Monkey Foods, Youthreach (Picture Framing) and Setanta Strings (Fiddle Making) who provided some lovely background music. A number of short videos were produced featuring Gateway Student Village, Metro Hotel, Funky Monkey, Super Valu, Axis and Setanta Strings. These videos highlighted Ballymun as a great place to do business, live, work and the great community spirit that exists in Ballymun.

The judges were clearly enthused and the videos were followed by a Q&A session with the judges involving Liam Barry, Robert Murphy, Catherine Whelan (B4b facilitator) and Shane Callanan from DNWAP. Local comedian and actor Eric Lalor was MC for the event. We then moved from the Chamber to the Innovation Hub where the judges met with a number of start-ups and heard all about the success of the hub to date. That was followed by a walk across the plaza to the RDC where Roger Warburton gave a brief tour of the building highlighting the uniqueness of the RDC and quick history of the building. The visit finished up in Musgrave Market Place where they were greeted by GM Brian Staunton. Brian spoke to the judges about the history of Musgrave's, success to date and local employment. It wound up with a quick tour and some light refreshments.

We are very pleased with how the visit went and it really was a day to be proud of Ballymun. It wouldn't have been possible without huge collective effort and the hard work of the steering committee so well done to all. The results will be announced at a ceremony on 15th November.



Members of the steering committee with the judges in Musgrave Market Place

Food Enterprise

Enterprise Ireland approved a grant of €11,250 to research the viability of creating a food enterprise hub in Ballymun. This grant is based on a spend of €22,500 which the Area Office will cover. The RFT closed on Friday 6th October and a successful candidate will be selected in due course.

Vacant Neighbourhood Commercial Units

A quote has been received for the refurbishment of Unit C in Sillogue. However an expression of interest has since been received for this unit so refurbishment is on hold for now. The current status of vacant units is:

Location	Ownership	Status	Comments
Coultry Unit B	DCC	T&C's offered for a new café	MUD issues very close to being resolved. DCC waiting on solicitors from both sides.
Coultry Unit C & D	DCC	Vacant	A number of viewings have taken place on Unit D with limited

			follow-up
Silloogue, Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	Expression of interest received. Currently with the Dev Dept.
Shangan Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	Available, to be advertised shortly
Shangan, Unit 4	DCC	Vacant	Available, to be advertised shortly
Turnpike, Unit 1 & 2	DCC	Vacant	2 expressions of interest received but terms could not be negotiated

Free Wi-Fi for Plaza – The Wi-Fi installation has been completed and is now fully functional. The EDO has been in touch with DCU who are open to the prospect of their ‘Next Generation Management’ students taking it on as a project to develop a strategy around maximising its potential. A meeting will take place over the next week or so.



Ballymun Local Area Plan Update

At the City Council meeting on October 2nd, the Elected Members, having considered the Chief Executive Report Nos. 1999/2017, 254/2017 and 310/2017 resolved to make the Ballymun Local Area Plan. The Local Area Plan has effect from Friday 27th October 2017.

Shopping Centre

The Credit Union commenced occupation of their unit in the Civic Centre on the 20th September. That leaves 3 occupiers in the Shopping Centre which is currently under CPO. No further update at this time.

Northern Site

Lidl lodged for planning on the 27th September
 Observation Period Ends 2nd November
 Decision due date 23rd November

Development Information

364 no. student bed accommodation in 2 blocks ranging in height from 4-6 stories with a 10 storey landmark corner element
2 no. retail units at GF
2 no. café units at GF
Licensed discount food store – 2,587 sq. m
Office space – 706 sq.m.
Total site = 1.54ha.

Balbutcher Lane Site

An advertisement appeared on Thursday 12th October in the Irish Independent.

Safety Fora Updates

Safer Ballymun

The last meeting of this Forum took place on Tuesday, September 12th. It was well attended on the night by DCC staff, Gardaí and local representatives. Many issues were discussed on the night including residents concerns about the recent double murder in the area, ongoing drug dealing in the Courts, CCTV cameras, illegal dumping and what plans the Gardaí and DCC have for dealing with anti-social behaviour around Halloween.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday October 24th and is scheduled to coincide with the launch of Safety Week.

Drumcondra Glasnevin Community Forum

The most recent meeting of this forum took place on Wednesday September 27th. Gardaí from Mountjoy and Santry Stations were present along with a large number of residents, DCC staff and local representatives.

Issues discussed on the night included anti-social behaviour in the area and the ongoing topic of the traffic trial taking place on Walsh and Ferguson Roads.

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday December 6th.

Mary Taylor

Assistant Area Manger