

**To the Chairperson and Members of the
North West Area Committee**

Meeting: 21st November 2017

Item No: 6

FINGLAS AREA OFFICE REPORT

Finglas Cabra Drug & Alcohol Task Force Coordinator for Finglas Safety Fora
Michelle McNally, the new Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator, started work on the 27th October.

Apprenticeship Fair

The Dublin North West Area Partnership will host an Apprenticeship Fair in Finglas Youth Resource Centre on the 22nd November between 10 am and 2 pm. The aim of the Fair is to promote apprenticeships as a good career option: attendees will have opportunities to meet potential employers and educators. A similar Fair will be held in Ballymun the following day.



Update on Kildonan Lands Project

Brendan Kenny, Assistant Chief Executive, attended a second meeting with the WFTRA Committee and public representatives in the Finglas Area Office on the 19th October. He has confirmed that he will be writing in the first instance to the Community Representatives involved on the outcome of the meetings and that a copy will be circulated to Councillors for the area.

Liam Mellows Working Group (WG)

The third meeting of the WG was held in City Hall on the 23rd October. The next meeting will be held on the 20th November.

Community & Social Development

Finglas Halloween Festival

The Finglas Halloween Festival “Finglas Fright Night,” took place in the Finglas Civic Centre on Tuesday 31st October from 6.00pm to 9.00pm. The numbers attending continues to grow each year. People travelled from many parts of the city to attend the event.

There was a wide variety of entertainment for families to enjoy on the night, including carnival rides, bouncy castles, old fashioned game stalls, haunted avenue, magic shows, face painting, food stalls, fireworks display and the main music stage.

The event was advertised through the Fright Night Facebook and Twitter page. Advertising boards were posted throughout the Finglas area. Both social media accounts were very active with over 7,000 hits on the Facebook page alone. The main Dublin City Council social networking pages, including our Fire Brigade pages, promoted the festival as well.

The event is managed by the Community and Social Development Team with the assistance of staff in the area office, leisure centre and parks department. The event management, including health and safety, was contracted to Cuckoo Event Management. The construction and derigging of the site was also contracted out. The Civil Defence and Order of Malta attended the event. An Garda Síochána also attended and with the assistance of the security company, monitored the crowds throughout the festival site. We are particularly appreciative of the Garda support during the planning stage and large presence on the night.

The Finglas Youth Resource Centre hosted the refreshment area for volunteers. They also created and managed the haunted avenue area, which included some of their young people. The Centre held a six week arts programme leading up to the festival which culminated in their haunted avenue on the night itself. The youth centre also managed the stage entertainment. The majority of musical entertainment on the night was performed by local young people.

Each year Dublin City Council invites local community groups to help with ticket sales for all the attractions. Ticket sales contribute to the groups fund raising efforts. It should be noted that the success of the Halloween Festival would not happen without the input of so many dedicated volunteers.

Community /Voluntary Groups and Organisations

- Ballygall Order Of Malta
- Finglas Suicide Network
- Meeting Place Club
- Erin’s Isle GAA Club
- Over 55’s Happy Ramblers Group
- Finglas South combined residents group.
- Finglas Concert and Marching Band
- Finglas Tidy Towns
- Odinswood Day Care Centre

- Rivermount Summer Project
- Finglas West Summer Project
- Willows FC
- Prospect Hill allotment group
- Barnardos
- The Finglas Centre
- Society of St Vincent de Paul





Dublin Northwest Area Older Persons Council (OPC)

Dublin City Council Community Development Section assisted two members of the Dublin North West OPC attend the National OPC Convention in Limerick on the 2/3rd November. The National OPC Convention is an important event for OPC delegates. It gives delegates the opportunity to network with other OPC's and experience firsthand the issues and concerns of Older Person's Councils in other parts of the country.

The Northwest Area Older Person's Council met on Wednesday 25th October in Finglas Civic Centre, Mellows Road. Representatives gave updates on conferences and events they attended. The main issue of concern raised at the meeting was illegal parking in the Finglas area, especially in and around shopping areas. Delegates expressed the view that illegal parking poses a hazard not only to older people but children as well.

Bring me back Alive

As part of World Health Day, Dublin City Council co-sponsored the Play "Bring Me Back Alive". The play took place in St. Joseph's GNS on Tuesday 10th October.

The play is a thought provoking story about suicide awareness set in a youth centre. It highlighted some of the warning signs to watch out for in someone who is suicidal. The play was well attended by the local community.

Prospect Hill Community Garden

Prospect Hill Community Garden is currently managed on behalf of Dublin City Council by The Finglas Centre. Community Employment staff from the Finglas Centre maintain the common areas with the garden.

The Prospect Hill Allotment holders have formed a management committee with a view to managing the facility from January 1st 2018. Dublin City Council in conjunction with the Finglas Centre and the Allotment Committee has identified training to assist with the transition.

Quiet Riot Book Launch

The Community Development Section assisted with the launch of a book called "Quiet Riot" in The Atrium, Civic Offices, Wood Quay on Wednesday 18th October.

The book was written by people with autism who have difficulty in communicating. The event included a link up with a similar group in Manchester. The Council's IT Team provided assistance at the event.

Dublin City Council Community Grants 2018

Applications for Dublin City Council's Community Grants closed on Friday 27th October. The following is the time line for the processing of the grants:

- 13th November- 1st December: Finglas Community Development Staff to complete assessments and return applications to Civics Wood Quay.
- 4th December -15th December Civic Offices Wood Quay will assess applications and produce necessary reports for pre Area Committee meetings.
- 2nd January – 12th January 2018 pre Area Committee Meetings to be arranged.
- Report to North West Area Committee on the 20th February 2018
- Full report to March City Council Meeting

Aidan Maher

Assistant Area Manager