



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

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

Meeting: 21st November 2017

Item No: 20

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, Aisling Poppintree, Santry Community Centre, Poppintree Community Centre, Muck and Magic Community Garden, Poppintree Health for All Group, Sports Development Officers and Community Grants Meetings.

Social Inclusion

Older Persons

Community Team Members linked with the following groups: Active Living, Positive Aging Committee, Solas, St Pappins Bowling Group, BADIG, Age Friendly Alliance Group, and Coultury Crafts Group. Community Team Members supported and co-organised a coffee afternoon with BADIG which took place on 25th October. The aim of this event was to attract more members to the BADIG Group by highlighting previous work done and by handing out a questionnaire on people's perception of disability in the local area.

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 planned their Witches Brew Café in the Otherworld 2017 Festival and Christmas Craft Activities. Team Members also liaised with the Chat and Craft Group and the Ballymun All Sorts Ladies Group in relation to Otherworld and Christmas Activities. Additional support was provided for a charity Bingo event which took place in the Centre on the 27th October which raised over €1,000 for a local child and the FACT Autism Halloween Party which took place on the 28th October.

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's Community Garden to house the Ballymun Men's Shed. Approval has been given to provide funding of approximately €40,000 and for DCU to go ahead with the next stage of the process which will involve a procurement process and obtaining three quotes for works.

Environmental

The Community team helped to organise the Ballymun Tidy Towns Awards which took place on Thursday the 5th October and boasted more entries than ever before. This was a very successful event and highlighted the fantastic work being done by local voluntary environmental groups, schools and other organisations. Community Team Members were also on the judging panel for most of the award categories. The Community Team worked alongside the Public Domain staff in relation to local environmental initiatives and distribution of planters, blue bags, brushes etc. A major clean up and painting project took place in Coultury Park on the 7th October which was attended and supported by Community Development and Public Domain staff. Local residents are being supported to take back ownership of their local Park.

Events

The Community Team attended and co-organised various events during Ballymun Safety Week (21st – 27th October) including the Safety Week Park Run, a poster competition for local schools, the Albert College Safety Talk and the BADIG coffee afternoon

The Otherworld Festival started in the run up to Halloween with the main events happening on October the 31st. This year there was an emphasis on extending the Festival with events taking place during the run up to Halloween. Among the new events were: Crash Test Caint

(Axis and Setanta), story-telling in the Muck and Magic Community Garden, a Pumpkin Competition, a new theatre production 'Glimmer' at Axis and a Fright Fest at BRYR. There was a huge emphasis placed on the parade this year and a dancer was hired to work with local community groups and make-up artists were available on the night to create a fantastic interactive 'Escape the Zombie Parade' with over 300 attending on Halloween night. At the main event, along with great acts such as Circus Gerbola, Fireworks, Main Stage Area, new developments this year included a craft tent, a spooky tunnel, a bigger 'Witches Brew Café', a Zombie Enclosure and a new Artist Lounge Marquee that showcased new local talent and featured 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.

2. Housing/Estate Management Updates

Civic Centre Reception areas

New reception areas have been provided in the Civic Centre, both at the main entrance and in the City Council public office on the second floor. The one at the main reception was provided to allow for extra space for the Job Centre. It is a more efficient use of space and is more visible to the public. The one in the City Council public office was provided as an outcome of a review by our Health and Safety Officer following an incident and enhances the Health and Safety of staff.

C.C.T.V.

The C.C.T.V. system is working reasonably well. Currently the cameras are divided between two different operating systems, with the older system being phased out over the course of the year. We have worked with the Parks Section to identify trees which are restricting the images the cameras are receiving. These trees will be pruned on a phased basis.

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 St Margaret's Road, Coultrey and Druid Court. Tenants have been called for interview and warned about their behaviour.

Ballymun Public Domain

In recognition of the volume and usefulness of the work being carried out in the area, we have increased the number of staff in the Public Domain Team in Ballymun.

Leaf Collection

The team links in with all residents associations, community groups and residents to provide them with the tools needed to gather and dispose of leaves that have fallen from trees. We have distributed approximately 8,000 blue bags and organised collection of same by DDC cleansing crews. We also distribute leaf grabbers, gloves, brushes and pickers to assist with this process. Encouraging and enabling residents to clean up leaves assists DCC immensely as leaves can cause huge problems when blocking up gullies and drains and are also problematic for pedestrians when wet and slippery.

Bonfire Wood Collection

Public Domain staff in Ballymun worked tirelessly over the Halloween period putting in long hours and working over the bank holiday weekend to ensure any bonfire material collected

could be confiscated. DCC had a specified crew from the cleansing section on call from 6am to 6pm over this period and we worked closely alongside them to remove any material that we or the public identified. The amount of material collected was immense and therefore reduces potentially harmful bonfires in the area. It also protects our parks and green spaces from being destroyed by fires which can take up to 5 yrs for the grass to be restored.

Environmental Projects

Public Domain continues to identify and target new groups in the area that are willing to work alongside DCC to improve their area. We supply all equipment needed to assist them with planned clean up days and help in the process of setting themselves up as Environmental groups, which then enables them to enter our BTT and City Neighbourhood competitions. We are linking in with Community section in the distribution of bulbs for our new groups to plant that will flower in spring and return annually.

Illegal Dumping

The Public Domain Unit in Ballymun conducted a leaflet drop in and around Whiteacre Crescent. This was in relation to illegal dumping. In the leaflets, Dublin City Council informed residents that there is ongoing illegal dumping of domestic waste/household items in the area. We informed residents that this behaviour is illegal and could lead to a fine of €150. Every household must have waste collection from an authorised waste collector.

Graffiti

The Public Domain Unit in Ballymun identified a number of graffiti black spots in the Ballymun area especially at the old Ballymun Shopping Centre and beside the St. Pappins Nursing Home. This graffiti has since been cleaned up.

Seating

A number of businesses that are located on The Rise in Glasnevin are interested in putting seating in place outside their premises. Discussions are ongoing.

Bin Survey

Staff from the Public Domain Unit will be conducting a bin survey at Ballygall Parade over the next couple of weeks. Staff will walk around the area to identify which households are registered with an authorised waste collector. This follows on from a clean-up carried out by the City Council which included power washing of the area.

Pyrite

The last phase of remedial works has started in Owensilla. Two houses are still being worked on in the Carton Estate; these families are due to return home at the end of the month. Ballymun should be free of all identified pyrite properties by Christmas of this year.

Druid Court

DCC held a meeting with the residents of Druid Court to discuss the suggestion of blocking the through access in the middle of the court. DCC then met the engineers to ensure that this work would not interfere with the main services in the court. The engineer confirmed this. DCC will meet with the residents again to discuss this further in the coming weeks.

Estate Enhancement

Bollards are to be reinstated in Sandyhill Gardens at the request of the residents. Kissing gates that were installed in Marewood Crescent have been modified to be more effective.

Anti Social Behaviour

DCC are currently working with the Gardaí on a number of anti social cases in the area. There has been an increase in the volume of complaints relating to drug dealing in the area. This information is shared with the Gardaí.

Ballymun Lettings January – October 2017

Allocation Category	Housing List	Transfer List
Band 1 Priority		
Welfare	7	2
Travellers	2	
Surrendering Larger		2
Medical	2	5
Homeless	23	
Band 2	15	8
Band 3	11	15
Sub Total	60	32
Total Lettings	92	

Estate Management January - October 2017

No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Drug Related	50
No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Not Drug Related	179
No of other Complaints	
Total Complaints	229
No of Anti Social Interviews per 1997 act	53
No of Other Interviews	32
Total Interviews	85
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	
	October 2017
Assessments	258
Permissions To Reside	16
Refunds	22
Opening of Accounts	20 (including 6 succession/sole)
Closing of Accounts	10
Front Counter Calls	370
Window Replacements	4

Ballymun Voids

Address	Number	Type	
Dane Road	6	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
Forestwood Ave	61	2 Bed	Under Repair
Owensilla	6	2 Bed	Under Repair
Whiteacre Place	34	1 Bed	Under Repair
Woodhazel Close	13	1 Bed	Under Repair
Carton Road	10	4 Bed	Under Repair
Gateway Gardens	11	3 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	115,119	OPU	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gdns	23,26,27	OPU	Under Repair
Ard Na Meala	41, 43	OPU	Under Repair
Pyrite Refurb			
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	

3. Ballymun Economic Development/Town Civic Alliance

Economic Strategy

The next economic sub-committee meeting will take place on Thursday 30th November.

Stimulating Economic Activity

Start-Up Ballymun

The next StartUp Ballymun event '**Boost Your Business**' will take place on Thursday 16th November.

Aimed at startups and owners of small businesses, we present:

- a panel of six 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; LEO, EI, DNWAP, Innovate Dublin, NDCC and B4b
- free mentoring from the expert mentors of [LEO Dublin City](#)
- real-time evaluations of your on-line social media presence (for businesses only) by digital business advisers from the [IBM Digital Sales Europe](#) team
- network with our panel and other business owners

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



FREE EVENT



Startup Ballymun Presents

Hosted by Dublin City Council

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS

with digital tech

Time:

4 pm to 7.30 pm
16 November 2017

Place:

Civic Centre,
Ballymun, Dublin 9

For more information:

 StartUp Ballymun
 @StartUpBallymun

Meet:

- The entrepreneur panel
- Advisers from Enterprise Ireland and LEO Dublin City
- Local enterprise support partners

Profit from:

- Free business mentoring & social media guidance
- Networking with business owners and StartUps

Register here:

<https://boostyourbusiness-startupballymun.eventbrite.ie>

Thursday 16th November 2017

@StartUpBallymun



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Dublin City Council



Identifiably Irish
Ireland's Domain Registry

Ballymun4Business (B4b)

Enterprising Towns Awards

Following the judges visit to Ballymun on 3rd October, the awards ceremony will take place on Tuesday 15th November in Tullamore. From Ballymun, Robert Murphy (Chair of B4b) Liam Barry EDO and Sinead Rooney, Ballygall Credit Union will attend. The awards and prizes are allocated as follows:

Category	Prize	Number Awarded	Total
Regional Runner-Up	Framed Certificate + €2,000	12	€24,000
Regional Winners	Trophy + €3,000	12	€36,000
National Category Winners	Trophy + €5,000	3	€15,000
Merit Awards			€15,000
City Award	Trophy + €5,000	1	€5,000
Overall National Winner	Trophy + €15,000	1	€15,000

3 Categories of Towns (based on population) and 1 City Award

- Small – < 3,000
- Medium – 3,001 – 7,000
- Large – 7,001+
- 1 City Award

Networking

B4b will host its final meeting of the year on Wednesday December 13th in the Rediscovery Centre. The event will be a networking opportunity for all its members and all business from Ballymun will be invited to attend. Invitations will be sent out shortly. There are over seventy businesses & organisations registered on the B4b website.

Food Enterprise –The RFT was re-submitted through Framework Procurement, DCC **Lot 3 – Financial & Economic Services – Sub-Lot 1** and closing date was extended to Friday 8th December for researching enterprise space for small to medium sized food business in Ballymun.

Vacant Neighbourhood commercial units

Terms and conditions were agreed on unit C in Sillogue, however, communication with the tenant has gone cold. 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	There continues to be in regular interest in these units but as of yet nothing has materialised in the way of concrete expression of interest
Sillogue, Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	Available

Shangan Unit 2	DCC	Vacant	The unit formerly occupied by household goods supplier has been vacated recently
Shangan Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	Available, To be advertised shortly
Shangan, Unit 4	DCC	Vacant	2 viewings pending at time of reporting
Turnpike, Unit 1 & 2	DCC	Vacant	1 viewing pending at time of reporting

Free Wi-Fi for Plaza –

The Wi-Fi installation has been completed and is now fully functional. It is intended to form a working group from the Civic Alliance sub-committee in order to implement a long-term strategy. Recent analytical data suggests the service is being used on a regular basis albeit by modest volumes.



Civic Alliance Update

The next Civic Alliance Meeting will be held on the 7th of December and the next Physical/Environmental Sub Committee Meeting will be held on the 23rd of November. There will also be an Economic Sub Committee Meeting on the 30th of November 2017.

Northern Site

The decision on the planning application is due on the 23rd of November. Three observations have been lodged.

Shopping Centre

The Credit Union have relocated from the Shopping Centre. The Job Centre is starting their fit out of the former Motor Tax Office. There are two remaining occupiers in the Shopping Centre.

Balbutcher Lane Site

Offers are due in to the agent by Friday the 10th of November.

North City Operations Depot, St. Margaret's Road, Ballymun

A planning application for the North City Operations Depot was lodged with Fingal County Council on Monday 6th November 2017. The planning reference number will be forwarded to the Area Members as soon as it is available.

Safety Fora Updates

Safer Ballymun

The most recent meeting of this Forum took place on Tuesday October 24th in the Council Chamber, Ballymun Civic Centre. It was well attended on the night as it was also the beginning of Safety Week.



At the start of the meeting, six defibrillators were presented to various business groups in Ballymun. The Gardaí gave the statistics for the six week period since the last meeting. Issues discussed on the night included anti-social behaviour, drug dealing, residents concerns about material being gathered for use on bonfires and the upcoming Otherworld Festival.



Each year Safer Ballymun host a week of events known as Safety Week to promote safety in the Ballymun area. The week was launched at the local park run (5k timed run) in Poppintree Park. Dublin Fire Brigade and the Gardaí took part in this event with local groups and residents and other agencies. Over 100 people participated in the event.

Other events which took place as part of this week included:

- A Safety talk by the Gardaí in a number of Senior Citizens complexes.
- Dublin Fire Brigade, Gardaí and Dublin Bus gave a safety talk to the local junior schools in the area.
- The Ballymun Garda station held its annual open day which was visited by the local schools in the area.
- The Local Drugs Task Force held a Cyber Safety Talk for parents. A presentation of 6 defibrillators to local groups/businesses in the Ballymun area was made by the Local Drugs Task Force at the formal launch of the Safety Week.
- BADIG held a coffee morning to promote the work they do in the area.
- BRYR facilitated games in the local parks for young people on their midterm break from school. The idea of this was to promote using the parks safely.
- Safer Ballymun also sponsor the night leagues that are run by the local Gardaí for teenagers in the area for the month of October.

Drumcondra Glasnevin Community Forum

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

Information on Walsh Road Safety Improvement Scheme circulated separately to Councillors.

Mary Taylor
Assistant Area Manager