

Item No. 6

A. Ballymun

The most recent meeting of this Forum took place on Tuesday 13th February in the Council Chamber, Ballymun Civic Centre. It was well attended on the night by member of the public, the Gardaí and local representatives.

A lot of the discussion on the night centered on **the** ongoing anti-social behaviour in the area. Sergeant Bernard Young from Ballymun Garda Station gave an overview of the time frame and incidents relating to **recent** shootings in Ballymun and explained that all necessary resources are being put into policing the area.

Ciaran Mahony, Senior Community Officer gave a presentation which summarised the work of the Community Development Team for the year 2017. Ciaran highlighted in particular the success of local community environmental projects/initiatives including the D11 Transformers, Poppintree, of Otherworld 2017 and of the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Event in December 2017.

B. Cabra

Motorbikes/Quads Christmas

The number of motorbikes/quads causing problems on Faussagh Avenue on Christmas morning last was less than anticipated.

This could be attributed to numerous reasons such as wet weather, Community Garda talks in local schools prior to Christmas and in particular the three thousand community awareness leaflets distributed by CCPF alerting parents to the dangers and nuisance value of motorbike/quad activities at this time and location.

Cabra Step Up Garda Diversion Programme.

Concerns have been raised locally regarding the imminent “call for proposals process” for Garda Youth Diversion Project services. This call for proposals is a tender process to run Garda Youth Diversion projects on a Garda Divisional basis from 2019 onwards.

The Cabra Step Up Garda Youth Diversion Project is operated by CABRA for Youth CLG, (C4Y) a voluntary community youth service organisation. This organisation has established a very good working relationship with local Gardaí in two different divisions, local youth at risk and their families and all other relevant local service providers. Since it's establishment 11 years ago C4Y has had many successful outcomes through the engagement of troubled young people and their families and there is doubt if this engagement would continue under any new structure. As a local community organisation C4Y will not be in a position to tender for such a vast area and population resulting in the probable closure of Cabra Step up Garda Youth Diversion Programme.

CCPF Forum Meeting

A forum meeting took place on 30th January, the following issues were discussed:

- All those present welcomed the reduction in motorbike / quad activities at Christmas.
- All those present welcomed the recent Garda drug seizures in the forum area.

- DCC were thanked for their excellent precinct enhancement work at Faussagh Avenue.
- All those present welcomed the influx of new recruits to both DMR North Central and DMR West. However concerns were raised regarding the serious lack of support and supervision of these new recruits due to the serious shortage of Sergeants available.
- Concern arose regarding lack of parking facilities afforded to people using the new LUAS service from Broombridge station.
- Concern also raised regarding organised aggressive begging at Faussagh Avenue.

Ongoing meetings with local Gardaí, local Dublin City Council and with local individuals groups and organisations.

C. Drumcondra

The most recent meeting of this forum took place on Wednesday 6th December in the Maples Hotel, Drumcondra. Gardaí from Mountjoy and Santry Stations were present along with a large number of residents, DCC staff and local representatives.

The Gardaí gave an update of several policing issues since the last meeting and among the issues discussed on the night were anti-social behaviour in the area, in particular in and around Griffith Park, illegal parking, 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 March 21st.

D. Finglas

The first round of Finglas Safety Forum meetings of 2018 took place on the following dates:

Finglas East - Monday 29th January 2018 in St Canice's Boys National School

Finglas West - Monday 12th February 2018 in St Fergal's Boys National School.

Finglas South - Monday 19th February 2018 in St Helena's Family Resource Centre.

There was good attendance at all three respective meetings with various concerns and issues raised as well as positive discussion and feedback from the local residents, Dublin City Council, Finglas Gardaí, elected and community representatives.

The main issues raised by the community at the recent Finglas East meeting were in relation to the following:

- Dangerous traffic congestion along Glasanaon road and Ballygall Road East. A question of utilising the nearby church as a car park was raised and also converting the area behind the park on Ballygall Road West into a car park.
- Illegal parking and traffic congestion issues around the village, especially during the times when children are being dropped off and collected from school. It was

noted that a new traffic engineer has been appointed and this issue will hopefully be looked into further.

- Vehicles speeding particular by takeaway delivery drivers e.g. Grove Park Road area.
- Anti- social behaviour in Melville city side area.
- A number of individuals hanging around local shops was raised which can be very intimidating e.g. lane at side of Spar. Also, Tesco Express, Eurospar, Lidl and Aidl.
- The new traffic lights in respect to the roundabout at Jamestown Road are not very noticeable and request if the Council could look into this.
- If a WhatsApp group could be set up in addition to current methods of communication, e.g. via phone and email, for the local residents within the community to inform the gardaí of any criminal activity.

The main issues raised by the community at the recent Finglas West meeting were in relation to the following:

- Request for a dog park to be considered at the Northway Estate Green / Park area was made. Also, in respect to dog fouling on Mellows Road, suggestion for one bin per entrance to a gate was made.
- On-going drug dealing and gangs hanging around the shops on Cardiffsbridge Road e.g. Tesco, Spar.
- One resident raised issue of the current condition of the footpaths on Dunsink Avenue and Wellmount Road as it is a hazard for pedestrians, cyclists etc.
- Request made if Dublin City Council could hold discussion with Dunnes Stores on Cardiffsbridge Road in improving the shopping centre as it is in a poor condition.
- Request for Dublin City Council to relook at the design on the Main Street (village end) due to concern around how drivers are driving on this road.
- Illegal dumping was raised as an issue at the back of St Michael's and the end of Fergal's lane.
- Request made if the entrance into the old cemetery grave yard on Wellmount Road could be addressed plus the granite steps as they are a hazard to the public.
- In respect to more litter patrols and grass cutting, proposal if North Road and the Abbottstown Area could be given a priority was made.
- Irish Permanent Building near Wellmount road needs addressing for access for prams and wheelchair users.
- In respect to Finglas swimming pool, a request for Dublin City Council to look at the current level of supervision at Finglas Sports Centre and ascertain if there needs to be improvement in terms of the level supervision there.

The main issues raised by the community at the recent Finglas South meeting were in relation to the following:

- Update on the provision for the new cameras on Tolka Valley and Broombridge Road to be given at the next meeting.
- Report of runners/shoes on an overhead wire in the Cloonlara Road area was given and request if these could be removed. Also issue of on-going dumping on Cloonlara Road was raised and, if possible, to obtain some sort of evidence to find out the individuals who are doing this.
- Query if the issue around the monitoring of the camera on Tolka Valley has been resolved as of yet.

- Request for the potholes on Gortmore Road, Barnamore Road/ Crescent/ Grove to be looked at.
- Query on how long the maintenance waiting list is currently for window frames to be repaired was raised.
- Anti- social behaviour (joyriding, cars speeding up and down the road, car ramming into a lamp post putting the lights out in this area), which culminated in a car being set on fire on 11/02/18, Tolka Valley Road.
- Question was raised if drones are an option as a method of surveillance for the Gardaí to utilise.
- Clarity on what happens after a Juvenile Liaison Officer (JLO) referral is made and, if possible, to state the number of arrests involved was requested.
- Request if Dublin City Council could complete the final roof in Scribblestown plus a issue about vents was raised were insurance companies will not insure a house due to vent issues.
- Request for residents to be updated at the next meeting on how Dublin City Council will be dealing with weed spraying due to environment health concerns that weed spraying is ceasing.
- In respect to residents' bin accounts, query on whether Dublin City Council had any method of checking to see if there is any evidence of accounts being set up plus query raised on whether or not there was an agreement that Dublin City Council would pass residents information onto the new waste collectors.
- In respect to Lakeland Estate, after household waste bins are collected, request was made if a road sweeper in this area could do a follow up.
- Request for the Park Section to sort out the branches of trees in the area was made as they are a hazard to the public. Matter was raised on the Council looking after the trees, making reference to the Charter.
- Query on what the by-laws are in relation to pedestrians walking through Tolka Valley park was raised and for Dublin City Council to link in with Parks Section about this.
- Update on Luas was requested.
- Lamppost outside Dunsink Drive was raised due to sparking (electrical issue).

General update:

Dublin City Council advised that a new contractor was appointed on 1st October 2017 and a number of seizures were made following the appointment of the new contractor.

At all three Finglas Safety Forum meetings, Dublin City Council explained about their current initiative of encouraging residents within the local area to set up a local environmental working group in their area. Application forms were available at all three meetings for local residents to fill out who were interesting in getting involved in this.

Quad bikes and scramblers:

An on-going concern around the misuse of scramblers and quad bikes and the associated safety dangers was raised at the previous Finglas South and Finglas West meeting. The main concerns centred around enforcement and seizures of the bikes, legislation, exposure of the issue, noise disturbance as well as the grounds of local fields/parks being destroyed and parental responsibility.

The Finglas Safety Forum coordinator will convene a problem-solving meeting over the coming weeks to specifically discuss possible solutions and actions in relation to this matter. At the Finglas South meeting, Damien Mangan, Community Sergeant, gave an update of the number of seizures, in respect to these vehicles, in December of last year.

General feedback from the local community:

- The anti-vandal pole and re-installation of the camera on Ratoath drive/Cappagh road and the anti-vandal pole received positive responses and feedback from the community.
- The work carried out by An Garda Síochána to prevent and detect criminal activity within the area, in particular, the high visibility operation, which was carried out in October/November of last year, was met with positivity at the meetings. In addition, a number of positive responses were made at the meetings in relation to recent detections from the local gardaí within the area.

To raise the profile of the Finglas Safety Forum, the Finglas Safety Forum coordinator has engaged in group discussion and given information talks with different community groups e.g. senior citizens, young people and individuals from the Travelling community, giving them an opportunity to ask questions, raise any related concerns they may have and provide them with appropriate contact details. Currently, the Finglas Safety Forum Coordinator is working with the young people at Finglas Youth Resource Centre, creating an opportunity for them to voice any relevant safety concerns/issues affecting them within their local area and actions/solutions they feel could help address such issues. The Finglas Safety Forum will continue to work with local residents within the community, statutory bodies, elected and community representatives and organisations to look at actionable solutions.

The next round of Finglas Safety Forum meetings will be confirmed over the coming weeks and will be advertised in the local newspaper and posters will be disseminated to shops, community centres etc within the local area.