

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2019

- 1 Minutes of Meeting held on 17th January 2019 Order: Agreed.
- 2 February Questions to the South Central Area Manager Order: Replies to Questions and the Area Manager's report circulated.

3 Roads & Traffic Matters

- 1. Minutes of the Traffic Advisory Group held on the 29th January 2019 in relation to Traffic Matters in the South Central Area.
- 2. Traffic Service Requests Status Report at 15th January 2019.
- 3. 2019 Traffic Works Programme for South Central Area.
 - Order: 1. Report noted.
 - 2. Report noted.
 - 3. Report noted.

4 South Central Area Matters

 Presentation on a Strategic Housing Development site at the former Dulux Factory Site, Davitt Road, Dublin 12. DCC SHD Application No.: SHD0002/19, ABPSHD Application No.: ABP-303435-19 7 - 16

- Presentation on a Strategic Housing Development site bounded by Mill Street, Sweeney's Terrace and Clarence Mangan Road, Dublin 8. DCC SHD Application No.: SHD0003/19. ABP SHD Application No.: ABP-303436-19.
- 3. Report on the 2019 Discretionary Fund.
- 4. Community Grants Report for the South Central Area.
- 5. Naming & Numbering Proposal for a new development on a site at 17,18 & 19 Newport Street, Dublin 8.
- 6. Naming & Numbering Proposal for a new development of a site at10C Ravensdale Park, Dublin 12.
- 7. Naming & Numbering Proposal of a site at Donovan's Lane, Dublin 8.
- 8. Proposal to initiate the procedure to extinguish the Public Right of Way over a laneway at 2-10 Clonard Road, Dublin 8.
- 9. Area Manager's Report.
 - Order: 1. Presentation given by Emer Uí Fhátharta, Senior Executive Planner. Members made observations on the application which will be factored into the submission to An Bord Pleanala. Members to be given sight of submission in advance of it being submitted to An Bord Pleanala to ensure that their observations are correctly recorded. Presentation noted.

- 2. Presentation given by Naoise McDonnell, Acting Senior Executive Planner. Members made observations on the application which will be factored into the submission to An Bord Pleanala. Members to be given sight of submission in advance of it being submitted to An Bord Pleanala to ensure that their observations are correctly recorded. Presentation noted.
- The members agreed to reduce the allocation for Walkinstown Park to €12,500 and allocate €5,000 to St. Michael's Family Resourse Centre and €2,500 to Inchicore Football Club. Report Agreed.
- 4. Agreed. Recommend to Council.
- 5. Noted.
- 6. Noted.
- 7. Noted.
- 8. Agreed.
- 9. A report was given and was noted by the Members, (see attachment).

5 Community, Culture, Economic and Emergency Services

- 1. Public Library Events for January 2019 South Central Area
- 2. Sports and December Report for January 2019 South Central Area
 - Order: 1. Report noted.
 - 2. Report noted.

6 Planning and Economic Development Matters

- 1. Derelict Sites report on the South Central Area.
- 2. Proposed Disposal of multiple plots to the rear of properties 1-17, 19, 30-36, 38-40 and 42 Eugene Street, Dublin 8.
- 3. Proposed disposal of the Council's fee simple interest in two sites at Davitt Road, Drimnagh, Dublin 12.
 - Order: 1. Noted.
 - 2. Agreed. Recommend to Council.
 - 3. Agreed. Recommend to Council.

7 Emergency Motion

Standing Orders was suspended to deal with the following Emergency Motions: -

Deferred Emergency Motion No. 1 in the name of Councillor Ruairi McGinley

That this Committee agrees that the pay and display scheme scheduled for Herberton Park Dublin 8 not proceed in light of sustained objections by residents of the street in question.

Order: Deferred to the March Area Committee Meeting.

Emergency Motion No. 2 in the names of Councillors Daithi Doolan, Pat Dunne and Greg Kelly

The South Central Area Committee calls on Dublin City Council CEO, Owen Keegan, to apologise for his comments reported in the Sunday Business Post. These comments were without foundation and only serve to undermine the good work being done by Dublin City Council, DRHE and homeless groups in Dublin.

Order: Agreed. Refer to the Lord Mayor.

Emergency Motion No. 3 in the name of Councillor Pat Dunne

This Area Committee notes with alarm a reduction in available staff in the three area offices. These reductions are having an impact on the delivery of services. We are rightly concerned that the Crumlin Area office may once again have to reduce its public hours and find this unacceptable. We call upon the CEO to fill all staff vacancies in the area.

Order: Agreed. Refer to the Chief Executive Officer.

Emergency Motion No. 4 in the name of Councillors Tina MacVeigh, Hazel de Nortúin and Pat Dunne

This Area Committee has no confidence in the Chief Executive of the City and calls on him to resign his post.

Order: Agreed. Refer to the Lord Mayor.

8 February 2019 Motions

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL SOUTH CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE 20th February 2019

677 <u>Councillor Hazel de Nortúin</u>

This Area Committee condemns the recent attacks on the De Le Salle site. This Area Committee also recognises the hard work done by local residents to see the site as a whole used for the community and will support their efforts going forward in every way we can. Given the lengthy planning process we're calling on DCC to lease the land on a short-term basis for furthering its use by the community and also keeping it secure. **Order: Report to Councillor.**

678 Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh

That this Area Committee agree that DCC/Minister for Heritage engage with the HSE to get conservation led improvements to the Quaker burial ground site on Cork Street, and that a study of its historic importance, who is buried there etc. be carried out. This is a hugely important historic burial ground, that dates back from 1690s. Unfortunately, it has been allowed to fall into disrepair and is quite neglected. Conservation led improvement schemes for St Luke's and St. James burial grounds, Liberties, are a model of how this might be done.

Order: Agreed without debate.

679 Councillor Michael Mullooly

This Area Committee calls on Dublin City Council to use the powers given to it as a Planning Authority under Section 35 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to take into account previous breaches of planning by developers when making planning decisions in respect of new applications by those developers or connected parties. **Order: Report to Councillor.**

680 Councillor Vincent Jackson

That Dublin City Council take action once and for all to address the poor heating situation in the Long Meadows Pitch & Putt Club House on Sarsfield Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. I have called to the club on a couple of occasions and the staff and chairperson have told me, despite the contractor calling out, the heating is not fit for purpose. I witnessed an electric bill of over \in 2,000 as they try and heat the building with small electric heaters.

Order: Report to Councillor.

681 <u>Councillor Ray McHugh</u>

This Area Committee agree that Dog poo bins be installed at the entrance to Willie Pearse Park, Crumlin and on Clonmacnoise Circle. Order: Report to Councillor.

682 Councillor Daithí Doolan

That this Area Committee calls on the owners of the De La Salle land, both the De La Salle Brothers and the developer, to properly secure and protect the buildings on the site. This includes schools and the monastery building, and this Area Committee calls on the developer to fully engage with residents before any planning permission is sought to develop the site.

Order: Report to Councillor.

683 Councillor Greg Kelly

That this Area Committee welcomes the emergency motions passed on Monday 4th February at the full Council meeting in connection to the De La Salle lands and buildings in Ballyfermot. With the recent fires and damage to the building the cost of securing the building and lands has been left to DCC. We call on the owner of the land and buildings to reimburse DCC the full costs incurred and also the cost of the number of call outs by the Dublin Fire Services.

Order: Report to Councillor.

684 Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh (as amended 20/2/18)

Regarding the site at Dolphins Barn that the Area Committee disposed 2 years ago but remains in dereliction. The Development Department have confirmed that legal correspondence is ongoing between both parties but it is taking too long to resolve this. This Area Committee demand that DCC Development Department exercise their rights under the agreement to take back this site as soon as possible. The members also requested a report on the current status, why it has not been expedited and why the Law Department has not exercised their powers on this matter. **Order: Report to Councillor.**

685 <u>Councillor Michael Mullooly</u>

The recently published Core Bus Corridor proposal by the National Transport Authority seeks to restrict traffic on the Lower Kimmage Road at the Sundrive Road Junction directing city bound traffic to Sundrive Road and onto Clogher Road. This Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to write to the NTA calling on them to clarify what impact the proposal will have on Sundrive Road and Clogher Road and what traffic management arrangements will have to be put in place for these roads and the surrounding area and to ask the Area Manager to prepare a report on this issue for the March Area Committee meeting. **Order: Report to Councillor.**

686 Councillor Vincent Jackson

That Dublin City Council identify a site / sites for the installation of electric charging points for cars in the Chapelizod Village Area. Many houses in the area don't have a garden / garage, hence cannot have an electric car. The provision of such facilities going forward is something we as a local authority will have to address.

Order: Report to Councillor.

687 Councillors Daithí Doolan and Greg Kelly

This Area Committee calls on An Bord Pleanala to agree a site visit with Drimnagh Residents Association at the former Dulux site to discuss the impact of the proposed development.

Order: Agreed

688 <u>Councillor Greg Kelly</u>

This Area Committee calls on the Minister for Education to address the current anomaly in pay and conditions for school secretaries throughout this state. The Department must implement measures that would provide for entitlement and protections equivalent to clerical staff on public service pay scales. This Area Committee support the Campaign SOS 'Support our Secretaries' set up by members of the Trade Union, Fórsa. **Order: Agreed without debate.**

689 Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh

That this Area Committee are frustrated and angry at the length of time it is taking to issue the report that Cllr Ní Dhálaigh called for and which the full membership of this Area Committee supported, over 8 months ago, on the social, economic and cultural impact the increased volume of development, but in particular the student, hotel and aparthotel are having on the Liberties community. We were told it was to be finished some time ago, and recently were informed that it would be issued before Christmas 2018. Given the increasing levels of such accommodation in the area and the fears within our communities that their voices are being ignored this report is urgently needed.

Order: Report to Councillor.

690 Councillor Daithí Doolan

This Area Committee expresses deep concern at the development of a 'gang' mentality in both Drimnagh and Ballyfermot. This could become dangerous to both the young people involved and to the wider community. This Area Committee call on Gardaí, youth services, sporting and recreational clubs to work together with these people and give them positive alternatives. **Order: Agreed.**

January Questions and Answers

Order: Listed.

10 AOB

9

- a) The Members extended their best wishes to Gerry O'Donoghue, Project Manager of Dolphin's House on his recent retirement from Dublin City Council.
- b) The Vice Chairperson, Councillor Críona Ní Dhálaigh, chaired the meeting from at 5.00pm to 5.09pm.

<u>Councillor Pat Dunne</u> Chairperson Wednesday 20 February 2019

Attendance:

<u>Members:</u> Pat Dunne (Chairperson) Michael Mullooly Greg Kelly Rebecca Moynihan Members: Daithí Doolan Hazel De Nortúin Tina McVeigh Criona Ni Dhalaigh <u>Members:</u> Ray McHugh Vincent Jackson

Councillor Mary Freehill also attended.

Officers

Mary Taylor, Area Manager, South Central Area; Kay Noonan Cork, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Ballyfermot Area; Tony Smithers, Area Housing Manager, Liberties Area Office; Chris Butler, Area Housing Manager, Crumlin Area Office; Mary Noonan, Acting Community Development Officer, South Central Area; Miriam Flynn, Community Development Officer, South Central Area; Dave O'Donovan, Project Manager, Cherry Orchard; Gillian Corcoran, Project Estate Officer, South Central Area; Niall O'Neill, Area Engineer, Traffic Management & Control; Neil O'Donoghue, Executive ITS Officer, Traffic Management & Control Niall Dully, Administrative Officer, Building Control Division; Cora Roche, Staff Officer, South Central Area; Karen Clarke, Staff Officer, South Central Area; Cathriona Woulfe, Senior Staff Officer, South Central Area.

Area Manager's Report South Central Area Committee Wednesday 20th February 2019

CRUMLIN/KIMMAGE ELECTORAL AREA

South West Inner City Area Report

Update on Kilmainham Mill

Stakeholder engagement has begun with Save Kilmainham Mill Campaign and the Residents Association. Bi-monthly meetings with both groups commence on the 21st of February and the Project Manager, Darragh Cunningham is in regular contact with both groups.

Some basic site clearance work has been done to clear foliage at the rear of the Mill at the mill race and along the river. These works are basic health and safety works enabling the relevant specialists safe access around the building. The works were carried out following consultation with a licensed archaeologist, the Save Kilmainham Mill Campaign and the Residents Association who were in full support.

A grant application has been made by Dublin City Council to the Historical Structures Fund (HSF) for the amount of €200,000. If successful the (HSF) funding and additional DCC funding will enable emergency stabilisation works to the building itself, roof repairs, propping of floors, mesh on windows, clearing of guano and other bio-hazards etc. These works will make the building safe for further surveys to commence. An asbestos survey should be commissioned in the coming weeks. Future usage options are yet to be explored until such a time as the building is safe to fully access.

Shopfront Improvement Scheme 2019

The Area Office's Liberties Business Area Improvement Initiative has announced the latest tranche of funding available under the Shopfront Improvement Scheme. This year the scheme will cover The Liberties, Dolphins Barn, Rialto and Clanbrassil Street (Leonard's Corner area). Applications are invited by 5th April. It is hoped to support 15 projects.

Urban Regeneration: The GEC (Guinness Enterprise Centre) Expansion

The Guinness Enterprise Centre has announced a €10m investment in its Taylors Lane premises to double the existing floor space and allow it to accommodate up to 160 startups and companies employing over 700, as well as 200 coworking spaces. The centre is supported by Dublin City Council through its LEO Office. A planning application has been submitted to Dublin City Council.

This announcement comes ahead of a major regeneration plan for the 12acre St. James's Gate Quarter by Diageo (with the first planning applications expected later this year) and the preparation by The Digital Hub Development Agency of a masterplan for its so-called Windmill site to the north of Thomas Street. In addition, a new workshare operator, Iconic Offices, will open its latest facility called The Grainhouse at 151 Thomas Street (former IAWS) in March. The scheme will accommodate 700 people when fully open.

BusConnects

The NTA has published outline plans for a number of high capacity corridors through South Central Area including Liffey Valley to City Centre, Clondalkin to Drimnagh, and Greenhills to City Centre. The Area Office is currently reviewing the suggested change proposed by BusConnects and the implications for Area Office public realm projects and the wider development agenda in the area. More details at <u>www.busconnects.ie</u>.

St. Audoen's Park, High Street

Works to enhance St. Audoen's Park by improving accessibility, permeability and circulation commenced in October 2017 are substantially complete with the park due to reopen in Spring 2019. The reconfigured western entrance will incorporate a play garden.

Francis Street

A Part 8 Planning Application was agreed at the September 2017 City Council meeting to provide for a more pedestrian friendly environment which encourages people to visit Francis Street and its environs on foot. The plan also supports the continued commercial operation of the Arts and Antiques quarter.

The environmental improvement scheme comprises improvements to the public realm the full length of Francis Street, Hanover Lane and part of Dean Street. The proposed works will include the following:

- Improvements to kerb build-outs
- Footway repaying
- Raised junction plateaus
- Kerb buildouts to formalise parallel parking and loading bays
- Landscaping
- Greening
- Bicycle stands,
- Carriageway resurfacing
- Raised pedestrian crossings and ramps
- Public lighting improvements

Detailed design work commenced in 2018 with a view to inviting tenders in quarter2 2019. It is expected that construction works will commence in late 2019/early 2020.

Meath Street

We are in the final stages of the preliminary design phase. We would hope to have another internal consultation by the end of February and another public consultation in March.

Francis Street

The Francis street EIP is continuing into the detailed design phase. It is envisaged that construction will commence in the autumn of 2019.

Dolphin's Barn

The Dolphin's Barn public realm improvement plan is awaiting resources from the Environment and Transportation Department to progress to the detailed design stage.

Bluebell

Work commenced in June 2018 on the Tallaght to Inchicore cable project and includes:

- The demolition of the former ABC Hall
- Provision of approximately 36 community allotments

The Hall was demolished late last year whilst the allotments are expected to be completed in April. Applications for the allotments were invited from Monday, 4th February.

Bluebell Community Council Report

Bluebell Community Council has recently opened their new office at no 1 Bernard Curtis House. This office will provide information to residents, community groups, and all the relevant agencies and service providers. Bluebell Community Council has selected Mr. Kieran Rose as Independent Chairperson and Clifford Sullivan as Legal and Business Consultant. Brian Maher of GVA Planning and Regeneration LTD has been retained by Bluebell Community Council to draft a plan for the area. A meeting between Planning Department, the Area Office, GVA and representatives of the Bluebell Community Council is scheduled for Tuesday the 26th of February.

CRUMLIN/KIMMAGE AREA REPORT

Crumlin Area Office Report

Opening Hours

Due to reduction in staff numbers, a review of opening hours may be required, with a possible temporary reduction in opening hours.

Stannaway Court, Senior Citizens Complex

New gas boilers have been installed in all units. Bord Gais have completed the installation of new gas lines and moved meters to the gable end of each block. Old gas lines will now be removed and insulation works can commence. Insulation works are due to commence before the end of February. New composite doors have been ordered and have a six week lead in to delivery and installation. It is likely to be mid to end of March when doors are installed.

St. Agnes Park – Respond VHA

Final snagging works are continuing but there is no confirmed handover date as of it yet. Respond has advised that all units have now been offered to and accepted by nominated applicants. Tenant induction has also been completed. Respond expect the units to be fully occupied by the end of February. It has been clarified that tenants will not be charged a deposit but will have to pay a week's rent in advance.

Raleigh Square- Tuath Housing Association

Works are progressing on these units and they are on course for handover at the end of June 2019. Tuath have advised they will be seeking nominations from Allocations for the 33 units in early June.

Rafters Lane – WALK VHA

Construction works are well underway on site. Due to the restricted access and confined nature of the site, the contractor has been given permission to bring in deliveries through Lissadel Court on one day a week. Deliveries are only allowed between 12.30pm and 2.30pm on Tuesdays and this arrangement is working well at the moment. The practical completion date for this project is July 2019.

CCTV at Benbulbin Road and Lissadel Road

A new 360-degree camera with a range of 500 meters was installed on Benbulbin Road. This camera was providing high quality footage but was attacked and damaged. The camera has been repaired and was reinstalled on the 15th February. The contractor is trawling through footage to try and identify the individuals responsible for damaging the camera.

We have requested a report from the Crime Prevention Officer in relation to improvements that can be undertaken in Brickfield Park to address anti-social behavior in this area. The Parks Section are currently removing trees at the Benbulbin end of the park which should allow greater visibility.

Cooley Road

Bollards have now been installed on the footpath at Cooley Road at the Children's Hospital. This will help alleviate illegal parking which has resulted in a number of serious accidents and ongoing traffic delays.

Community Report

The SWIC/Crumlin Kimmage Community and Social Development Team continue to support new and existing community/residents groups and organisations who are actively engaged in their communities throughout the year.

Maryland Grotto

The final stage of the environmental enhancement of the Maryland Grotto is now under way, this entails the plastering and painting of the feature wall at the grotto, and some new plants to rejuvenate the area. It is envisaged to hold a community celebration here during the summer.

Celebrate all that's great about Dublin 8

Dublin City Council's Area Office is delighted to be associated with the LOVE DUBLIN 8 Community Fair which is taking place in St Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday 26th February.

Over one hundred and twenty local groups will participate in this event including: Social & Community Groups & Networks, Voluntary Agencies, Adult Education, Youth Groups, Schools, Art / Culture / History Groups and local Businesses to name but a few. The event will commence at 5.20pm with an Evening Song recital by the St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir. Doors will open to the public at 6.15pm

Environmental and historical talks

Eric Dempsey, renowned Ornithologist, will be presenting the first of a series of educational and informative talks on bird life in the city, the first of these presentations will take place on the 6th March at 11.00am in the Educate Together School in Griffith Barracks, the theme of this talk is aptly timed for the springtime arrival of our City visitors *Apus Apus*, the Common Swift.

Historian in residence

Historian in residence, Cathy Scuffil, will give one of her many and interesting talks about the Dublin connection to the "Way of Saint James" on the 20th March at 2.30pm in St James Church parish hall.

Tidy Towns Conference

Following the successful Better Links Stronger Communities Tidy Towns Conference 2019 last month, a number of communities are now energised and motivated to get ready for their spring cleaning city neighborhood competitions.

Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum History Subgroup Historical Exhibition

Dublin City Council Community Development team supported the forums history group on their Historical Exhibition with the title of: - 15* acres in Crumlin (*15 acres. Oroods. 39perches) From Leicester house to a Children's Hospital. The exhibition is taking place on Friday 22nd February 2019 in St Mary's Parochial Hall, St Agnes Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12 from 10.00a.m. - 6.00p.m. All materials which will be on display have been sourced from Pearse Street Library Archive by the Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum History Sub Group. All welcome. See attached brochure for further details.

International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day, Dublin City Council Community and Social Development is supporting Dublin12 Meditation Group. They are hosting a free taster session in meditation, head, shoulder or massage and ear acupuncture in Fr. Kitt Court, on Thursday 7th March 2019 from 11a.m.-1p.m. Booking is essential, please ring 0852362491 to reserve your place.

Open Day from Community Groups

Following on from the success of last years Open Day, Dublin City Council Community Development Team is assisting the Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum in hosting an Open day for Community Groups on Saturday 9th of March between 11.00am - 3.00pm in the school hall, Scoil Una Naofa. The event will be an opportunity for groups to network among themselves as well as with the wider community.

Lá le Prátaí at Flanagan's Fields

St. Patrick's Day is the traditional day for planting early crops of potatoes and once again the Back of the Pipes Residents Association will be hosting their annual "Lá le Prátaí". This much loved community event will take place in Flanagan's Fields in Reuben Street. Local residents will gather to plant potatoes and take part in the Patrick's Day Celebrations. Residents can expect some amazing culinary delights cooked from locally sourced food from the community garden not to mention great music and craic.

BALLYFERMOT/DRIMNAGH ELECTORAL AREA

Housing and Environmental Issues

Cherry Orchard

The contractors, MDY, are back on site since Tuesday 12th February and they have been mandated to carry out all outstanding works. They expect to have the remaining thirty-six houses ready for occupation within the next six weeks. Prior to this, some sub-contractors were back on the site under the direct provision of CHI. That work related to street lighting and enabling works in preparation for the main contractor returning. Applicants are being contacted by CHI and interviewed in preparation for offers of accommodation.

Elmdale

The new housing units in Elmdale in Cherry Orchard will be ready for letting shortly on a phased basis. We expect that nineteen (19) units will be ready over the coming weeks and the Ballyfermot Area office is awaiting confirmation from Architects Section that the paperwork is in order and that the keys can be collected. The nineteen units consist of 11 two bedroom units and 8 three bedroom units. We intend to hold additional viewings as the units become available for letting and all prospective tenants will be viewing the units before they make a final decision. As with the previous Rapid build units in Cherry Orchard, we will set up interviews with MABS, Citizen information and the Community Welfare Officer before the prospective tenants sign for their tenancies. We have had expressions of interest from over 300 applicants in the units.

Cornamona Court

The tender process for this scheme has recently concluded and a report recommending an award of contract has been issued. Approval is now being sought from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to award the contract.

Environmental Works

Outstanding work for Barneville include a stone planter with the name of the estate engraved to be installed at the entrance to the estate. The playground company have taken delivery of the play equipment and will be on site before the end of February to discuss the location of the football goals and standalone basketball hoop. Sites have been identified throughout the area for additional trees which will be planted in the Spring.

Outstanding works for California Hills include the crowning of trees and the planting of bulbs. It is hoped to upgrade two wheelchair accessible gates in the near future to prevent access to the Park by scramblers and horses.

Chapelizod

A Chapelizod Steering Group meeting was held on 6th February at which Parks Dept. and Public Domain staff were also in attendance. Issues around derelict sites, new developments, tidy towns proposals and the general upkeep of the area was discussed. Members were also invited to agree a date for a public meeting regarding the Springvale site. The date of 28th February to hold the public meeting with the residents of Chapelizod in St. Patrick's School to discuss the proposals for the Springvale site was agreed.

Business Community/Christmas

The Area Office intends to arrange a meeting with the business owners in the Spring to discuss the impact of the improvements to the streetscape and to work with them with new initiatives. We are hopeful that the row of shops adjacent to the Gala building will be painted soon as organised by the owners and it is hoped that this will encourage other shop owners to link with us regarding their own shop fronts.

Community Report

Community Environmental Projects

The City Council is working with the Bluebell Environmental Group and local interests to redesign and redevelop the grass area opposite the shops.

The Community Team is supporting transition year students from Mercy Secondary School, Goldenbridge to take part in the Young Social Innovation Programme. The girls hope to link in with older people in Bulfin Court and participate in environmental projects like planting and clean-up's in the area.

Ballyfermot Environmental Project

The Ballyfermot Environmental Project will be opening its 2019 activities with a series of community clean ups which will take place over a four-week period. The first two will commence in the Drumfinn Park area and Cherry Orchard's Croftwood Gardens. These environmental projects are joint collaborations between the Council, local residents, and various community groups and educational agencies.

California Hills Math's Eyes Project's

The California Hills Math's Eyes Project's planning stage is complete as the overall project nears fruition. It is planned that the final phase of the project will see an unveiling in early March following extensive collaboration between DCC's Community and Parks Departments, St. Dominic's school and Tallaght IT.

Coiste Bhailethormaid

Coiste Bhailethormaid is an exciting new Irish language and cultural heritage project designed to enhance and further promote all thing Irish in the Ballyfermot area. This local Coiste already has a full schedule of events lined up for March's Seachtain na Gaeilge festivities with its centerpiece being a full Ceili for over two hundred second year students from local schools being hosted in the Ballyfermot Community Centre. The City Council is hoping to establish a similar group in the Drimnagh area to organise events for Seachtain na Gaeilge. Banners promoting Irish and Seachtain na Gaeilge will be placed along the main street, Ballyfermot aided by funding from the 2019 Discretionary Fund.

History / Heritage group

There is a big interest in local history in the Dublin 12 area. Dublin City Council brought those interested together and a new History / Heritage group has been established. The Council will support the group through providing seed funding, speakers, and organise visits to historical points of interests. The Council hopes that a committee will form and the group will grow. The next meeting will be held in Good Counsel GAA club on Wednesday the 6th of March.

Social inclusion

- Community Development is supporting Inchicore Works Resident Association to set up a Men's Shed.
- Meetings are ongoing with Community Development, the H.S.E. and the Oblate Community Employment Scheme to extend and retain the daily meals produced in La Touche Court. It is also proposed to book a number of practitioners to host a series of talks on health and wellbeing.
- A new walking group has been established in Inchicore supported by Dublin City Council. The Ring Walkers Group meets Monday to Friday at 9am and 7pm and family walks will be on Saturday at 4pm and Sunday at 12:30pm. The Council has also supplied hi-vis vests and walking leader training for group members.
- The Council is working with the Ballyfermot Resource Centre to organise classes to set up an ukulele band. The first classes will take place on 22nd Feb at 11:30AM
- The Ballyfermot /Chapelizod Partnership grants are now open. The Community team have worked with local organisations to submit applications for LCDC Local Facilities Enhancement Fund and Creative Ireland for Cultural events.

Cherry Orchard

Christmas Panto - "The Fairies and the Shoemaker", Basement Productions Theatre Company.

We were very happy to have our second Christmas Panto in the centre during the month of February. The Panto took place on the weekends of 2nd 3rd 9th & 10th with a 3pm show each day. These shows were open to the public and had a good attendance. There was also a special show put on, on 31st January for St. Ultan's school which was greatly enjoyed by the younger pupils and teachers alike. This was an opportunity for the Parents and Young Children from Cherry Orchard and Ballyfermot as well as other areas to come to a Pantomime and experience the fun and laughter enjoyed by so many other children around this time of year. Most if not all attending would not have this opportunity if it was not brought to the centre. Many thanks to all involved in putting on such a successful event which was attended by nearly 400 people.

Mica's New Hair Salon in the centre.

Our new venture is coming along nicely with customers coming and going and creating a great buzz in the building. It is an appointment only service and appointments are made directly through Mica the lady who operates it.

Sequence/Ballroom Dancing Classes.

This group meet every Wednesday and Friday mornings 11-12.30pm. The group are together less than a year and have grown from 4 members to over 40. A great bunch of people and always inviting new members.

Afternoon Activity Clubs.

Our children's clubs every afternoon Tues-Friday are going strong with over 60 children attending weekly.

Boxing Club.

This well-established club is going great and has a waiting list for new members.

New Baton Twirling/Majorettes Group.

Elite Twirling Academy started with us at the beginning of February. So far the group are going great and have a large number of children attending. The group have reached out and have members of the Traveling community as well as some homeless children attending. This is a great thing for all involved and we are giving as much support as we can to the organisers.

Men's Music Shed.

This group who started not too long ago with us have grown greatly in numbers and confidence. From small beginnings around 5 men they now have over 20 in the group. Not bad for a group who are together less than a year.

Bingo Nights.

We have two bingo nights in the centre. Monday and Wednesday's. This is a popular past time especially for our older people.

Cherry Orchard Tae Kwan Do Club.

This group are together around a year and have taken on new members over that time. They are with us Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank.

The food bank is continuing to provide a vital service to many individuals and families in the area with over 120 people collecting food bags every Friday from the centre.

