

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

Meeting: 16th April 2019

Item No: 3

Cabra Area Office Report

Glasnevin Station

Residents of Coke Oven Cottages have received notice of a compulsory purchase order from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) for sections of their property to facilitate the realignment of the railway in conjunction with the development of the proposed Glasnevin Station at Cross Guns. The station is planned to link the Maynooth rail line with the proposed Metro and construction is currently scheduled for 2022.

Irish Rail

Irish Rail will continue to spray Japanese Knotweed in May and September along the Royal Canal as this is proving to be a successful method of treatment. One area is proving resistant and will be allowed to grow and then sprayed in September.

Irish Rail is currently waiting for replacement fencing for a section at St Vincent's Playing Fields.

A section of railing is falling into the canal opposite Coke Oven Cottages. Irish Rail will clarify if this is the responsibility of the TII or theirs.

Phibsborough LEIP

Karl Mitchell, the new Chair from Central Area and Fergus Synnott, NWA, met with Cllr Perry and residents representatives to update them on the proposals from Paul Kehoe Architects (PKA) for selected key locations along the Phibsborough Road/ North Circular Road axis.

While it should be noted that the proposals are just that and are at the early stage of development, residents' representatives expressed their thanks for the meeting and noted that there are some elements in the PKA designs that they are pleased to see, others absent which they expected to see - and others still which they recognise as potentially problematic in light of the NTA's Bus Connects QBC plans in Phibsborough.

Karl stated that we will explore these options within DCC and update residents on developments.

Royal Canal Working Group/Dublin Canals Clean Up Group

The group met recently in Cabra Area Office and amongst the issue discussed were the Dublin Canals Action Day which will be held on the 27th of April in tandem with the Dublin Community Clean Up Day. There are six starting points along the Royal Canal from Clonsilla through to Spencer Dock for anyone who wants to join in. Starting time is 10:45 am.

The group won the City Neighbourhood Award for the Central Area and the overall award for the Royal Canal Group.

1,000 trees planted by school children at Tolka Valley Greenway Park

School children planted over 1,000 native trees at Tolka Valley Park and Eco-Golf Club. Children from St. Malachy's School, Finglas are the latest in Dublin to join in a global tree planting initiative.

The 1,000 saplings were donated by Coillte for this worthy cause and supplemented by suitable native acres from the Dublin City Council stock. These trees have been selected to make provision for Dublin's future climate and to ensure resilience in the new woodland.

The planting party was preceded by a presentation by Orla Farrell, Project Leader of Easy Treesie to the staff of St. Malachy's School and the Green Schools' Committee. The theme was the importance of tree planting for capturing carbon dioxide. The school intends to offset the carbon it uses for energy by planting these local trees and so win their next International Green Flag.

The Easy Treesie team were joined by many local volunteers including parents and grandparents of the school children. Further information on the initiative maybe found at www.easyTreesie.com

Community & Social Development

Phibsborough Tidy Towns and North Circular Road Residents have organised a Community Event to take place on Saturday 27th April. The Bridge at St Peter's Avenue will be officially named the Harry Clarke Bridge by the Lord Mayor of Dublin Councillor Nial Ring. The famous artist, Harry Clarke's stained glass windows is a feature in nearby St Peter's Church. The unveiling will be followed by a celebration fair in St Peter's Church Garden where the local community are invited to celebrate and enjoy the festivities. The event is supported by the community development team.

Phibsborough Tidy Towns have recently established a biodiversity sub-group with the aim of mapping the actions currently in place to support the natural environment in the locality and to develop a plan of action to complement this. To assist them the Phibsborough Men's Shed are making Swift Boxes to create a suitable habitat for the birds to nest and these will be erected in suitable locations. They will be working with the Parks Department and the Biodiversity Officer on this project. There are bee hives in St Peter's Church Garden and the Royal Canal Linear Park.

The Big Hello National Community Weekend will take place on the May Bank Holiday Weekend. Local Residents were invited to apply for a small grant to assist with the cost of organising an activity to bring neighbours together. Some suggestions were to hold a sports day, a neighbourhood walk or a picnic. The closing date for receipt of completed application forms was 29th March.

Written permission has been granted by the owner of the Premises beside Phibsborough Library for the Mural to go ahead on the gable wall leading to Blacquiere Villas. The Artist has been engaged and a scene from James Joyce's Ulysses has been chosen. The work will commence shortly.

The Team Dublin Clean-up will take place on Saturday 27th of April with residents groups in the Cabra Area, Ashtown, Navan Road and Phibsborough being encouraged to take part.

The area office is organising the supply of equipment and collection of refuse following the clean-ups. The Initiative is very well supported by these local communities every year.

Royal Canal Park Community Association's AGM took place Tuesday 9th April in the Community Centre. The Chairperson was interested in establishing a Cycle to School Project in the area similar to one he has researched in Galway. He would like to collaborate with DCC, as a cycling and walking initiative was launched by Dublin City Council called Hike It. Bike It. Like It. The Community Development Staff will support the group by endeavouring to link in with the relevant departments and personnel to progress the project.

Aidan Maher
Assistant Area Manager