

**Area Manager's Report
South Central Area Committee Meeting
15th May 2019**



'Culture Date with Dublin 8' will run from Saturday, 18th - Sunday 19th of May. The festival now in its third year highlights the postal district of D8 as one of Ireland's top cultural destinations. The weekend will see a series of over 30 free and specially curated events taking place across some of Dublin 8's top historical landmarks including Kilmainham Gaol, Saint Patrick's Cathedral and IMMA – Irish Museum of Modern Art. The programme has also expanded this year and includes a number of new heritage sites including Christchurch Cathedral, St Patrick's Cathedral and Marsh's Library.

The festival aims to encourage people who are living, working and visiting the area to discover the hidden gem that is right on their doorstep. This year, visitors can explore an ancient crypt and get a chance to ring the bells of Christ Church Cathedral, enjoy an outdoor concert in the temple at Goldenbridge Cemetery or be transported back to *World War 1* with theatrical re-enactments at the National War Memorial Gardens. Kilmainham Gaol will be providing free tours over the weekend and presenting new, and never previously exhibited, civil war artefacts. For children, Marsh's Library will be hosting a LEGO® Minifigures treasure hunt of historical writers, and Richmond Barracks will hold specialty tours and a workshop on local Biodiversity. At the *Irish Museum of Modern Art*, visitors can avail of free tickets for 'Gaze'. This will mark the final weekend of the exhibition that features the work of Lucian Freud, widely considered one of the most important figurative painters of the 20th Century. Freud's work is shown alongside contemporary artists such as Marina Abramovic and Annie Leibovitz.

The full schedule of events is available on the festival's website:

www.culturedatewithdublin8.ie

National Convention of Older People's Councils 2019.

Donegal County Council hosted the National Convention for Older People's Council in conjunction with the Donegal Older Persons Council and Age Friendly Ireland. The convention took place in the Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town, May 9 and 10th 2019. The Acting Community Development Officer, along with four members from the South Central Older Persons Council, attended the convention. Listed are some of the many presentations made at the Convention: -

- Enabling people to participate in a society that takes account of human difference and to interact with their environment to the best of their ability.
- To provide support to people to live in their own homes and communities for as long as possible,
- Safety and security for older persons,

- Intergenerational activities which engages young and older people in neighbourly and community projects which enable them to exchange stories and skills past and present.

This convention provides an opportunity for each Council to highlight their age friendly achievements and for an open exchange of ideas and opportunities.

Update on Library Developments

Inchicore Library: -A pre-part VIII presentation was made to the area committee in May 2018. Following this, the Capital Projects Governance Board requested a review of the project be undertaken, given the potential for a new library as part of the redevelopment of St Michael's Estate. The review was completed in March and is under consideration by management.

Crumlin-Drimnagh: - A feasibility study on the provision of a library on the site of the former Ardscoil Eanna is due to be submitted by the consultant architect at the end of May. City Architect's Division will consider the study in the context of the development of the neighbouring site for residential use, after which it is to make a joint presentation to the committee members.

St. Michael's Estate: - Libraries have provided a brief including spatial breakdown to the project manager to assist the consultant architect in their completion of brief for a multi-disciplinary design team.

CRUMLIN/KIMMAGE ELECTORAL AREA

South West Inner City Area Report

St Luke's Garden

A small public garden has been created to the front of the former St. Luke's Church (now called Thomas Burgh House) on St Luke's Avenue. The garden was designed by Bernard Seymour Landscape Architects under the direction of the City Heritage Officer as part of the overall conservation strategy for this site. While some snagging issues remain, the Heritage Officer has now opened the garden to public access. Opening hours and arrangements will be formalised shortly. The Heritage Office also plans a series of pop-up events to engage the public with the St. Luke's Church Conservation project.

Francis Street Environmental Improvement Scheme

This month will see extensive site investigation works along Francis Street ahead of the main public realm works later in the year. The site investigations are being undertaken by KN Networks on behalf of Dublin City Council. Local businesses and affected residents have been advised.

Marrowbone Lane

Tendering for a planned green area at Marrowbone Lane will issue in May and the expectation is to start the work later in summer. The fencing has now been removed for a short while and the area has reverted to car park use, however this will be permanently removed once the planned landscaping works commence.

Dolphin's Barn

The Area Office is proposing some public domain improvements to the commercial area of Dolphin's Barn and Reuben Street over the coming months. Planned works include painting and upgrading of railings and street furniture and enhancing planted areas and adding new street planters to Reuben Street in association with 'Back of the Pipes' Residents Group. The Shopfront Improvement Scheme for businesses also applies to Dolphin's Barn.

Roads Maintenance Programme 2019

Roads Maintenance Services will be undertaking various carriageway and footpath reconstruction works in the area as part of its annual works programme. The Area Office is advised that with ongoing tendering, it is expected that most locations in the area will be done in the second half of the year.

Liffey Cycle Route

A design for the proposed Liffey Cycle Route from Heuston Station to Docklands is currently subject to a non-statutory consultation period until 6th June 2019. The proposal is to install segregated continuous cycle lanes along both side of the Liffey with addition improvements to pedestrian facilities, new boardwalks, changes to traffic management and the removal of parking along the quays. The proposals will affect quays in the SCA from Merchant's Quay to Victoria Quay.

St James Graveyard Conservation Project

Phase one of the project, which includes conservation of memorials and boundary wall, will be completed at the end of May. Phase two of the project, which includes landscaping and interpretation, will commence in August and is due for completion in spring 2020.

Peace Garden (South East Area)

The refurbished Peace Garden at Christchurch Place has now been completed and will open to the public shortly. A ceremony to rededicate the Garden was held on Tues 30th April attended by the Lord Mayor and representatives of the regional Government of Flanders. The refurbished garden forms part of a series of new public spaces and greening initiatives now completed from Christ Church Cathedral to James Street as part of The Liberties Greening Strategy and Fáilte Ireland's 'Dubline' investment programme enhancing the main city entry to The Liberties.

Bluebell

Works to provide 36 community allotments on the site of the former ABC Hall in Bluebell are now complete. Arrangements are being made for licence agreements to be signed and it is expected that planting will start by the middle of this month.

Crumlin Area Office Report

Crumlin Swimming Pool

The refurbishment works on Crumlin swimming pool are still ongoing. The works include a complete re-tiling of the pool and the pool bank. This work is progressing well with the pool finished and tiling has commenced on the pool bank area. Part of the works commissioned included extensive replacement of most of the old pipework and a complete upgrading of the plant room. This aspect of the work is now complete. The members will be informed when a completion date for all the works is available.

Stannaway Court, Senior Citizens Complex

Following the completion of the required gas works insulation, works have now commenced on Block 1 (No.'s 1 -12). It is expected that the insulation on this block will be completed by the end of April. Preparatory works have commenced on the remaining blocks. New composite doors have been delivered and installation has commenced on the first 2 blocks.

St. Agnes Park – Respond VHA

The majority of the units have now been occupied. There is one unit which is not occupied, but it is expected that it will be occupied by the end of May.

Raleigh Square- Tuath Housing Association

Works are progressing on these units but there has been some delays, which will push the handover date past the previously expected date of the end of June 2019. Tuath have advised they will be seeking nominations from Housing Allocations, for the 33 units (28 x 1 bed, 5 x 2 bed) in early June.

Rafters Lane – WALK VHA

Construction works are well underway on site. The practical completion date for this project has now moved out to the beginning of August.

Armagh Road -FOLD VHA

Construction works are continuing on the site with an expected completion date of Q4, 2019. The complex will provide 97x1 bed Senior Citizens units.

Ard Scoil Eanna site

DCC has recently completed the purchase of the former Massey's Funeral Home to complete the site footprint. A feasibility study, including a cost benefit analysis, has been submitted to the Department for approval for funding. The feasibility study includes the redevelopment of the Lissadel Road maisonettes. The site will provide Social Housing and a Public Library. Housing Development will arrange a presentation for local Councilors when the project has received stage one approval from the DOEHLG.

Brickfield Park Area issues

The CCTV camera, which had been maliciously damaged earlier this year, has once again been attacked. The camera has been badly damaged and we are currently reviewing options for sourcing a more vandal proof camera and making it more difficult to access.

The Garda Crime Prevention Officer has submitted a report outlining improvements that can be undertaken in Brickfield Park to address anti-social behavior in this area. We are reviewing the report with a view to implementing its recommendations.

Community Report for Crumlin/Kimmage

Dublin City Neighbourhood Competition

Numerous groups from across the Liberties, Rialto and Crumlin areas are busy preparing for this year's entry in the City Neighbourhood competition. Streets are being cleaned, containers painted, planters planted and shop fronts are being spruced up too.

This year's theme is very much about "The Bees" and residents groups are most conscious of the need to support these beneficial insects by ditching the chemicals and introducing pollinator friendly planting schemes to our streets and gardens.

The Haven Pharmacy Window display in Rialto Village is Buzzing (excuse the pun) because of an innovative project by the local Women's Craft Group. They have crocheted an entire pollinator display, which includes crochet blossoms, crochet window boxes, honey pots and of course lots of Honey Bees. Winnie the Pooh would be in his element! This beautiful environmental awareness display is well worth a visit.

Saving Dublin's Swift Populations

The Griffith Educate Together School and Dublin City Councils Community Section (Eblana House) have come together in an effort to save local swift populations. "*Apus apus*" the common swift, which is a summer visitor to our city, has come under serious threat of extinction in recent years. This is mainly due to the modernisation of our towns and cities. Swifts nest in cracks and crevices in old buildings and under roofs. Unfortunately, our modern buildings have no such accommodating features and swifts have now been elevated to the Amber list according to Bird Watch Ireland. In an effort to save our local swifts, special

nesting chambers are being erected on the Griffith Educate Together School building in the next week. Spy cameras will be placed inside the chambers for observational purposes throughout the class rooms and call systems will be played on a timer at peak times throughout the day in order to attract swifts to the new site. On a recent school visit by Eric Dempsey who is one of Irelands leading ornithologists, children were mesmerised to hear about this incredible bird who spends its entire lifetime on the wing. Eric told the children .. *“This is your Heritage, Swifts carry Dublin Passports. These birds are as much a part of your heritage as buildings like Christ Church & St Patrick’s Cathedral etc. These are Dublin Swifts, they are deserving of our protection before it’s too late”.*

D12 Mental Health Forum

Dublin City Council Community and Social Development Section are supporting the D12 Mental Health Forum with their D12 Mental Health & Wellbeing Fair, taking place on Wednesday 15th May from 11a.m. - 3.00p.m. in Walkinstown Community Centre. Guest speakers will include the Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention.

Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum

Dublin City Council Community and Social Development are continuing to support the Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum with the scheduled monthly clean ups. The Forum’s next Crumlin Village Clean-up will take Saturday 27th May 2019 from 11a.m. – 1pm.

Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum Family Fun Day and Dog show

Dublin City Council Community Development Team, Sports Development Team and Public Domain Section are once again supporting the Crumlin Walkinstown Local Forum with their Annual Family Fun Day and Dog Show, which will take place in Eamonn Ceannt Park on Saturday 23rd June 2019.

Summer Projects 2019

Dublin City Council Community and Social Development Team is continuing to support voluntary summer projects in conjunction with Crosscare. Committees are well underway planning and finalising their programme which will give young people an opportunity to participate in various recreational and educational activities in a safe and friendly environment. Dublin City Council’s Community Team will also support non-voluntary summer projects run by Youth Organisations, in the South Central Area through grant aid.

Public Domain Report for Crumlin/Kimmage

The Dublin Community Clean – Up 2019 was supported by Teelings, Dublin Distilleries, ALOFT and Staycity with staff members coming together on Friday 26th April to clean-up the Newmarket Area. Groups from across the area turned out in force to participate. The City Neighbourhoods Competition is currently being rolled out –closing date for applications has been extended to May 24th.

Crumlin Park Precinct Improvement works will commence over the coming months. Quotes have been sought and consultation with residents is under way. The members will be updated on progress. Other locations are also under consideration for minor improvements depending on remainder of discretionary funds.

Intensive cleaning will commence over the coming weeks at James St., Thomas St. and Cornmarket. A painting/cleaning programme for street furniture is also under way. The agreed locations are Dolphins Barn/SCR, Francis St., Thomas St. with a further survey of Crumlin Area planned by the end of the month.

The Dublin Canvas Traffic Signal Box Art project has received entries from a variety of artists and the designs will be chosen May 21st. Velo City has commissioned the design for Boxes on Thomas St. - this will be paid for by Velo City. Seven possible locations have been

identified for submissions. The members will be provided with an up to date report on completion.

The Three Tiered Planters provision for the area are as follows: Rialto 4, The Liberties 6, Crumlin 5.

Anti-Social Behaviour leading to defacement of Weaver Park Play equipment and skate park is currently under investigation with Gardaí. Parks, Housing and Public Domain are working with the Gardaí to address this issue and prevent further incidences. The surface of the skate park and wooden play structures require specific treatment and a condition survey is required before the chosen contractor can treat for graffiti removal.

BALLYFERMOT/DRIMNAGH ELECTORAL AREA

Cherry Orchard

Landscaping works are almost completed on the CHI site in Cherry Orchard. Of the remaining thirty-six houses, twenty-two families have accepted offers and interviews are ongoing for the other units. There is no confirmation as to whether the issue relating to the street lighting and a connection by the ESB has been resolved.

Elmdale

New lettings for nineteen units were signed on Monday 13th May & Tuesday 14th May with engagement from MABS, Citizen Information, Community Welfare and Restorative Practice. Keys for the units will be available at the end of the week. The next phase will be ready for handover shortly. An open evening will be arranged as soon as the new families have settled in their new homes.

Cornamona Court

The contractors for the development of Cornamona site moved on site on Monday 13th May. The Ballyfermot Area office will engage with the contractors and the residents to address any issues that may arise.

Environmental Work

The tree planting throughout Ballyfermot has been completed. One tree was replaced in Barneville Park from previous planting, one tree was planted in Cherry Orchard Court, eight were planted at Spiddal Road and ten trees with seven shrubs were planted at Le Fanu Road.

The locations of the trees were agreed in consultation with the residents in some instances. The planting will complement the planters, which were placed at various locations last month, and we have requests for more in other areas. The Area Office intends to paint the planters and will provide additional plants if requested by residents. Groundworks were also carried out in the Civic Centre Park with tree stumps being removed and the ground reseeded. As agreed at the local policing forum, skips were provided in the Raheen/Clifden area in consultation with the residents and they were fully utilised. The probation service has been working at various blackspot locations throughout Ballyfermot and Chapelizod. Their work includes litter picking, painting of exterior walls, cutting back overhanging shrubbery etc.

Claddagh Court

The railings in Claddagh Court are being painted and a yellow box is to be installed at the vehicular entrance. An engineer is considering what works can be carried out to the railing to prevent access being gained by youths who are climbing over it. The engineer has also recommended works to be carried out to the stairwells to prevent the pooling of water. In

addition, preventative measures are to be carried out by Roads at the entrance of the car park to stop vehicles parking on the footpath, which blocks visibility by the residents when they are exiting the complex. These works will be carried out over the coming months.

Chapelizod

No further update in relation to the proposed housing development at Springvale. A quote to carry out the preparatory work at Liffey Vale for the installation of the allotments has been submitted to Parks and is currently being appraised.

Business Community

Public Domain is considering improvement works for the Ballyfermot Road and when that is completed, a meeting with the business owners will be arranged 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 the weather improves. The owners are organising this work and it is hoped that this will encourage other shop owners to link with us regarding their own shop fronts. Improvements to the shop fronts in Decies Road are under consideration at present and quotes have been received and are under consideration. It will include gutter cleaning and repair, painting of shop fronts, power hosing of pavements and replacing dead trees.

Kilmainham Inchicore Network

Bus Connects: KIN submitted observations and concerns re the proposed Bus Connects Route 7, in particular concern over the proposed removal of trees at Grattan Crescent.

Phoenix Park Visitor Experience Strategy Review: KIN lodged a written observation in relation to the proposals set out in The Phoenix Park Visitor Experience Strategic Review. In summary, the observations welcomed the new proposed bridge over the Liffey at the War Memorial Gardens. The suggestion that increased linkages between all the heritage sites in Kilmainham and Inchicore would be of great benefit to a Visitors Experience was made; this would involve increased coordination between the OPW and other statutory agencies such as DCC and the NTA.

Inchicore Regeneration Consultative Forum

Dr. Jack Nolan's Scoping Exercise is well underway aiming to develop a strategic social and community plan for the Inchicore and Kilmainham area. Jack is engaging with community residents, stakeholders, public representatives and businesses in the area. It is expected that a Report will be completed mid-summer 2019.

Education Subgroup: The first meeting of an Education Subgroup to strategically review the educational needs of Inchicore will take place Thursday 16th May, 2pm Our Lady of Lourdes National School. All Principals of local schools (primary, secondary, tertiary, and crèche directors) and those working with youths in the area have been invited to attend.

Vienna Housing Model: The Vienna Housing Model Exhibition was at Richmond Barracks during April. A seminar "Housing for All: Delivering New Affordable Rental for Dublin" was held on 16th April. The speakers included Jim Baneham (Housing Agency), John Coleman (Land Development Agency), Dr. Rory O'Donnell (Director, NESAC), Prof. Michelle Norris (UCD), Ailish Comford (Fair Rent Homes). The month long exhibition organised by Dr. Dáithí Downey (DCC Dublin City Housing Observatory) was a successful exploration of the cost rental model and opened up the debate around the proposed development at the Emmet Road site.

Kilmainham Mill

Applications will be invited to tender for the emergency stabilisation works on the Mill by the end of May. Surveys of Japanese knotweed recommenced again on Tuesday the 14th May

as the sprouts are now more pronounced and are therefore easier to detect. The public communication plan will launch in late May.

Community Report

Community Environmental Projects

The plant sales held in Chapelizod, Drimnagh and Walkinstown were very successful. The Ballyfermot Sales will take place at 6:00pm on Thursday 16th in the Library, Civic Centre, Orchard Community Centre and the Markievicz Centre. Volunteers from local groups help organise the local sales. 16 Plant drops will take place on May 23rd to local organisations and community groups in the Ballyfermot/Drirnagh area to support groups enhance their local area.

The Ballyfermot Environmental group, Fusion Project and City Council staff are replanting the plant boxes along Ballyfermot main road and Grange Cross with summer geraniums. This initiative is being funded by the Ballyfermot Environmental group through the 2019 discretionary fund.

The Community Team is supporting groups to enter the 2019 City Neighbourhoods Competition. The deadline has been extended to May 24th. Applications are available on dublincity.ie/cityneighbourhoods.

Work is continuing with the Ballyfermot Resource Centre and the Men's Shed to expand the group and set up an environmental project. The City Council has agreed to locate a 20 ft storage container in the Resource Centre to help develop the project.

Cruinniú 2019

Building on the success of Cruinniú na n'Óg 2018, young musicians from Familibase, Ballyfermot Youth Service, Kylemore College and CDET Music Centre will perform in Le Fanu Park on Saturday 15th of June. Holding an outdoor gig for young people in the Park is a very positive celebration of youth. The young people have been working collaboratively on the music for what promises to be a great event. The Arts Office and Community staff are supporting this project.

Bealtaine Bus Tour

Dublin City Council has organised a bus tour for the senior citizens to 14 Henriette Street and Hugh Lane Gallery on Thursday May 30th. Historian in Residence, Cathy Scuffil, will give a rolling commentary on some historical facts related to the two locations on the bus journey into town.

Cherry Orchard Summer Fair

The Cherry Orchard Summer Fair will take place on Saturday 8th of June. This year the fair will be held in the grounds of the Equine Centre. The event is funded primarily by the City Council with local organisations working together to put on a great day to celebrate the area.

The Dublin City Community Enhancement Programme 2019

The Community Enhancement Programme funding is now open for applications. The aim of the programme is to enhance facilities in disadvantaged areas. Community and voluntary groups and not-for-profit organisations can apply for a maximum grant of €5,000. Funding will be available for minor capital projects. Full details are available at www.dublincity.ie/lcdc. The closing date for applications is Friday 14th June 2019.

Mental Health Talk

The City Council working with the Local Drugs Task Force has organised an information talk in Ballyfermot Library this Wednesday 15th May at 2.15pm to help increase mental wellbeing awareness.

Drimnagh Festival

The City Council is supporting the Drimnagh Festival committee to develop an ambitious Programme of events for a three day Festival commencing on July 5th.

Senior Citizen Common Rooms

Minor refurbishment improvements to the Common Rooms in Rossaveal, Fr. Lemass Court and La Touche Court have been made. The makeover includes: painting, provision of new furniture where necessary and replacement of equipment and blinds.

Bluebell Environmental Group

Dublin City Council supported the Bluebell Environmental Group to clean the memorial garden at the back of the maisonettes.

Public Domain Report for Ballyfermot/Drimnagh

The Dublin Community Clean-Up Day Sat 27th April was very successful despite adverse weather conditions with over 230 bags collected from SCA. Groups from The Liberties, Ballyfermot, Chapelizod, Drimnagh, Kilmainham, Inchicore, Rialto, Crumlin and Walkinstown cleaned canal banks, city streets and green spaces with businesses, community groups, Council members and staff working in partnership to "Keep Dublin Beautiful". The closing date for the Neighbourhoods Competition has been extended to 24th May.

Painting and Street Cleaning will commence shortly in Ballyfermot Shopping Areas. Bollards lamp standards and public bins will be cleaned and painted at the following locations: Decies Rd, Claddagh Green and Plaza, Ballyfermot Rd. Environmental improvements have been agreed at Park West Ave: - painting railings on the bridge, community led planting and cleaning from Cedarbrook entrance to Park West Ave. A major clean-up at St. Oliver's Education & Training Centre has been funded by Dublin City Council. Housing, Development and Public Domain have arranged to clear illegal dumping from the site at rear Barneville Park. CCTV cameras will be deployed at the bridge and further detection/enforcement measures are under consideration. A joint initiative with Irish Rail and The Cherry Orchard Community Development Centre to increase awareness and education in the community and reduce illegal dumping is at discussion stage. The number of three tiered planters for the Area has been increased to 25. Ballyfermot will be allocated 8, Chapelizod 3, Bluebell 4, Drimnagh 4, Kilmainham 4 and Inchicore 2. Specific Sites to be confirmed.