



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

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

Meeting: 17th November 2020

Item No: 5

Ballymun Area Office Report

- 1. Ballymun Covid-19 Community Response Forum**
- 2. Ballymun LAP Update**
- 3. Community Development Update**
- 4. Economic Development Update**
- 5. Housing Report**
- 6. Other News/Updates**

Ballymun Covid-19 Community Response Forum

The Covid-19 response team includes Liam Barry, Martina Kelly, and Ciaran Mahony with all three on a rota to respond to Covid-19 requests. The service is continuing but no requests have been received in Ballymun since the introduction of Level 5 restrictions were implemented. This is most likely due to the strong network of supports already in existence in Ballymun prior to Covid-19 and the fact that this network of support was reinforced during the original lockdown earlier in the year.

1. Ballymun LAP Update

Shopping Centre – Site 1

The heavy demolition of the structures is well under way and progressing well with completion on track for December. Barnmore will continue to liaise with DCC on the completion of the demolition and seeding of the site. The Ballymun Area Office, Development Department and the Structural Engineers continue to discuss the proposed reinstatement of the boundary.

Lidl - Site 3

The new Lidl supermarket opened on the 22nd October. Feedback from the general public is that it is a very impressive store. The retail units at the development are now being advertised by Smith & Butler Estate Agents. The units range in size from 1334-2960 sq.ft. (124-275m²) with an expected rent of €30 per sq. ft. (€331.21 per sq. m) per year.

Daft ad: <https://www.daft.ie/53113341>

The additional works including the boundary fence and new footpath will commence by mid November. The Area Office will continue to monitor traffic and parking issues on Balcurris Road. The Area Traffic Engineer has confirmed that the continuous white line and the stop line on Ballcurris Rd at the junction with Shangan Rd will be repainted. Plus the implementation of new Double Yellow Lines on the both sides of the road from the junction to the Lidl entrance.

Vacant Units

The vacant unit at Santry Cross is currently being fitted out and will be occupied by Joseph McNally Solicitors.

There have been enquiries about other vacant units from gyms and craft businesses over the last couple of weeks, which will be followed up in due course.

DCC have agreed a deal with the HSE for units 3 & 4 Shangan Court who plan to open a day hospital. They are still at pre-planning stage and there are still some aspects to be agreed upon between DCC and the HSE before a planning application is submitted.

Balbutcher Lane Junction Reconfiguration Scheme

Construction works are well progressed on the south side of the junction. Installation of new utilities is almost complete and work is continuing on the last sections of footpaths and landscaping works, including the planting of 18 new trees. There are significant resurfacing works required for the new carriageway and approach roads, so amended traffic management measures will be put in place to accommodate these works. The Contractor will aim to minimise disruption as much as possible and will notify local residents in advance. The roads will stay open to traffic at all times.

Hampton Wood Drive currently has an unfinished carriageway surface, therefore, it is proposed to install the final surface course along its full length as part of the Balbutcher Lane Scheme. There is significant local parking all along this road, which will need to be relocated temporarily for the surfacing works to be carried out. This work will be carried out over a few

stages and local residents will be notified in advance via leaflet drops and notifications to local residents groups. Each parking area should only be affected for 1 to 2 days.

It is anticipated that the new signalised junction will be fully opened up to traffic by the end of November, with minor snagging work continuing until the end of the year.

This will be the first fully Protected Junction to be rolled out in the city, where cyclists, pedestrians and motorists are separated as they move through the junction. Concrete 'protection' islands at the junction will protect the cyclists from traffic. Left turning cars must yield to cyclists that wish to travel straight through the junction. DCC will be launching an educational campaign on how these Protected Junctions work in advance of opening the junction fully to traffic. Information on this campaign will be circulated prior to public release.



Left turning cars must yield to cyclists



Silloque Infrastructure Scheme

Contract documents have been signed and all insurances are now in place for the construction works. The Contractor is working to identify a suitable location for a site compound. Pest control measures will be implemented prior to commencement of the construction works and it is expected that some tree felling will also be carried out before Christmas.

The Contractor will carry out minor site investigation works and meet with the various statutory utility providers to confirm the location of the existing utilities and to confirm work methodologies. Notification letters will be distributed to residents in advance of the scheme with contact details for the Project Liaison Officer.

3. Community and Social Development Update

The 2020 Community and Social Development Grant Scheme applications are currently being processed and groups should receive their funding over the coming weeks. A second round of LCDC Community Enhancement Funding was recently announced and the Community team are currently assisting local groups and organisations with queries about same.

Environmental Issues

The Community Development team worked alongside the Public Domain team on the following initiatives: Ballymun Tidy Towns Meetings, Better Ballymun and the distribution of winter bulbs for planting. Over 50 local groups recently received winter bulbs.

Ballymun Men's Shed

Community Team members attended meetings in relation to enhancing the studio in Poppintree Community Centre to make it suitable for the group. It is envisaged that these works will commence before Christmas.

Sports and Wellbeing

Community Team members are attending meetings in relation to a number of Sports and Wellbeing initiatives for the coming year including a Ballymun Sports and Wellbeing Festival.

Otherworld 2020

Ballymun Online Halloween Festival Otherworld 2020 – The Community and Social Development Team in conjunction with Axis programmed an online Festival, which ran from noon to 10pm on 31st October. Events included: Ballymun Says Boo, Spooky Storytelling, The Tell Tale Heart Theatre Production, Fancy Dress Competition, Otherworld Kids Kitchen Disco, Ballymun's Got Deadly Talent Final, Spooky Gardens Competition Final, Virtual Haunted Trail, Ballymun Lights Up and the Creative Minds Music Event.

The online festival was a great success with residents engaging throughout the day and sending in messages and pictures directly to our on-line platforms. We can estimate that approximately 4,800 viewers (households) watched the online Halloween Events live and many more watched after the day. This figure is increased significantly if we take account of the boosted figures



Ballymun's Got Deadly Talent contest commenced in the weeks up to Halloween which encouraged local young people to send in videos of their creative performances. A fantastic range of talents was displayed through the online competition with the winner announced at 6pm on Halloween Night. The winner was an extremely talented local ballet dancer who choreographed a spooky dance which was performed to an eerie soundtrack and backdrop. The final reached 2.4K views on the night

Ballymun Lights Up Project - 1,300 art packs were delivered to schools and youth projects along with an instructional online video setting out how to decorate your windows for Halloween. On Halloween Night at 7pm, individuals were encouraged to shine a lamp/light through their window, make Ballymun light up and share their pictures online. This was a good symbol of the surviving light and collaborative community spirit that has been so evident over

the last number of months. BRYR did an amazing job at lighting up their building and produced a short video which was shared on-line for all to see the efforts of the children involved.

Ballymun Spooky Garden Competition - The Community team collaborated with Ballymun Tidy Towns to engage local environmental groups and local businesses and encourage them to decorate their garden, street and shopfronts. Sharon Harvey, local landscaper for the occasion, created an instructional video. The competition was successful and the winners were announced online on Halloween night. Ballymun Tidy Towns had 3,510 views on their posts related to the competition.

Local Spooky Trail - Students of Trinity Comprehensive have developed a spooky trail in Ballymun. They have written and recorded spooky stories that aired online on Halloween night. We envisage that signs will also be placed around the area with the stories displayed on them, and the trail will be further developed when restrictions ease at some stage in the future.

The figures below represent hits when you go into the videos of each Facebook page per activity;

Tell Tale heart; 8K views, when boosted (shared by FB) got 16.1K

Otherworld Creative Minds; 5.5K views, when boosted got 12.8k

Story telling: 3.4K, when boosted got 9.2

Otherworld Mun Tv: 1049 views

Ballymun's got Talent: 2.5K views

Ballymun fancy dress; 1.3k

Kitchen disco: 650 views

Threads rockin horror; 421 views

Tumor Tuner: 410views

Ballymun Lights Up; 294 views on night but the post 12K over few days (from boosted post)

Virtual haunted trail; 157 views

4. Economic Development Update

BRL Update

The Economic Development Officer is continuing to work on the cases with Bennetts Construction and Glenman Construction.

Stimulating Economic Activity



B4b hosted a virtual networking event during October and were delighted to welcome Andrew Webb, Grant Thornton who presented the Dublin Economic Monitor. B4b are now working on a '**shop local**' campaign in the run up to the Christmas period, which the Economic Development Officer will support

BEST Programme – 'Hair Together'

The first Hair Together Programme has been completed, and there is a lot of interest to run another one. They were unable to hold their awards ceremony but did feature on the RTE 6 o'clock news and their website: <https://www.rte.ie/news/2020/1020/1172813-hair-together-project-for-dublin-teens-is-a-cut-above/> The Area Office contributed €8k to run the pilot.

The Economic Development Officer shared information with '**Hair Together**' about the LCDC Community Enhancement Programme <https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/improving-my-community/local-community-development-committee-lcdc>

Shop Front Enhancement Scheme

This scheme is still in development; however, the plan is to run it along the same lines as the South Central Scheme, offering up to 50% of improvement costs to a maximum of €3,000. While interest is understandably a little tepid at the moment not all businesses have been contacted yet. Some have indicated that they may be in a better position to consider an upgrade in the New Year. Quite often, it just takes one project to kick-start interest among businesses when they see the results.

Northwest Area Business Support Scheme (working title)

The Economic Development Officer is still working on the design of this scheme. At the moment, we are contacting a sample of businesses from a wide-range of sectors in Ballymun and Finglas to get their views on such a scheme, which will help inform our objectives. The feedback from the business support agencies such as LEO and Enterprise Ireland is that there are a number of businesses that do not engage with their supports who may welcome this support.



CoderDojo

CoderDojo Ballymun started back on 31st October doing their classes on Zoom. There was a very good turnout and it worked very well.

Other economic news

There was a piece in the Sunday Times recently about Metro Hotel's plans to expand (paywall article): [Metro plans to raise the roof](#)

5. Housing Report (Jan – Oct 2020)

Estate Management

No of Anti- Social complaints per 1997 act Drug related	18
No of Anti-Social complaints per 1997 act (Not Drug Related)	46
No of other Complaints	0
Total Complaints	64
No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 act	12
No of Other Interviews	11
Total Interviews	23
No Requests for mediation	0
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	0
No of Section 20 Evictions	0

No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	0
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	0
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti-Social Behaviour	0
No of Tenancy Warnings sent to Central Unit	0
No of Court Orders Granted	0
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	0
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	0

Ballymun Lettings

Allocation Category	Housing List 2020	Transfer List 2020	Older Persons 2020
Bands 2 & 3	13	1	
Medical			1
Welfare		1	
Homeless	14		2
Travellers	2		
Transfer HAP			
De-tenanting			
Estate Management		6	1
Maintenance		1	
Surrendering Larger		4	
Unable to afford			
Succession	14		

Total	43	13	4
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Ballymun Voids

Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status
Ard Na Meala	3 Bed House	20/08/2020	Under Repair
Balcurris Gardens	3 Bed House	09/09/2020	Under Repair
Belclare Green	3 Bed House	10/01/2020	Under Repair
Carton Drive	1 Bed Apt	17/05/2020	Under Repair
Carton Drive	3 Bed Apt	12/07/2020	Under Repair
Carton Road	3 Bed House	20/07/2020	Under Repair
Coultry Green	2 Bed Apt	20/11/2019	Under Offer
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apt	28/06/2020	Under Offer
Cranogue Terrace	3 Bed House	26/07/2020	Under Repair
Dolmen Way	1 Bed Apt	09/10/2020	Under Repair
Gallaun Road	2 Bed House	08/06/2020	Under Repair
Gateway Avenue	2 Bed Apt	21/06/2020	Under Repair
Gateway View	2 Bed Apt	23/09/2020	Under Repair
Marewood Crescent	2 Bed Apt	24/05/2020	Under Repair
Poppintree Crescent	2 Bed Apt	23/08/2020	Under Repair
Shangan Crescent	2 Bed Apt	23/11/2019	Under Repair
Silloge Green	2 Bed Apt	29/03/2020	Under Offer
Silloge Park	1 Bed Apt	09/02/2020	Under Offer
Silloge Park	1 Bed Apt	21/06/2020	Under Offer

The Plaza Apartment	1 Bed Apt	16/12/2019	Under Offer
Whiteacre Court	2 Bed Apt	01/03/2020	Under Offer
Whiteacre Place	3 Bed House	17/06/2020	Under Repair
Woodhazel Way	2 Bed Apt	01/03/2020	Under Repair

Older Persons Unit

Address	Type		Date of Vacancy	Status
Ard Na Meala	1 Bed		10/05/2020	Under Offer
Burren Court	1 Bed		10/05/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed		30/09/2018	Under Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bedsit		17/06/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed		21/07/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed		26/07/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed		07/06/2020	Under Repair
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit		12/07/2020	Under Repair

Rent Assessment

Assessments	496
Permissions To Reside	4
Refunds	12
Opening of Accounts	7 (including 0 sole/ 0 successions)
Closing of Accounts	3 (including 6 sole/ 0 successions)
Front Counter Calls	Closed
Window Replacements	4

Baile na Laochra, Poppintree

All 49 houses have been completed and handed over to the homeowners. The “Taking-in-Charge” process is still ongoing. The public lighting has been connected to the ESB network. A quotation has been submitted for works in the space to the rear of the modular housing at the request of DCC.

1-37 Oileáin na Crannóige, Balbutcher Lane

Construction work is progressing on the 37 houses on this site following the return to work. Almost 4 months of progress have been lost and the social distancing guidelines will impact on the progress of the remaining houses. The first 17 houses have been handed over and the 17 homeowners have now moved in. The next 8 houses are very close to completion and the external works to drainage, utilities and front garden walls are continuing.

6. AOB

Ballymun Social Regeneration Fund

A report in relation to the Social Regeneration Fund was presented and approved by the North West Area Committee at its meeting on 20th October 2020 (item 10).

We are currently finalising the application process for 2021 and endeavour to be in a position to launch an on-line application process in the coming week. Two nominations from the North West Area Committee are required for the Social Regeneration Assessment Panel. Nominations will be accepted today at the Area Committee.

Ballymun Library

As the library is currently closed for essential repairs any information about events can be found online.

E: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

W: www.dublincitypubliclibraries.ie

Community Action on Plastics - Webinar and toolkit launch

Join Global Action Plan on the **26th of November at 2pm** for the launch of our “Take Action on Plastic Waste” toolkit, which provides your community group the support and guides on how to take action within your community.

During this webinar we will look briefly at the problems that plastic creates and then explore, through the toolkit we are launching, how we can take collective action together.

This webinar and toolkit can help your group or organisation from Ballymun to take action on plastic waste. Join us and invite your colleagues.

Registration is available via our Facebook event:

<https://fb.me/e/3hwy5ltKR>



Jackie O'Reilly,

Acting Area Manager.