



Report and motion on the Naming of the Bloody Sunday Bridge

A Motion submitted by Cllrs C. Perry and N. Ring was considered by the Arts, Culture, Leisure and Recreation SPC on 30th November 2020:-

“This Committee agrees that the Royal Canal Bridge at Russell Street, currently named Clonliffe Bridge / Russell Street Bridge be officially re-named as “Bloody Sunday Bridge” in commemoration of the events at Croke Park on 21st November 2020 when 14 innocent civilians were killed by RIC/Auxiliaries/Black and Tans”

The SPC referred the motion to the Commemorations & Naming Committee (CNC) for consideration.

The motion was considered by the Commemorations & Naming Committee at a meeting on 25th March 2021.

Officials reported that the bridge is in the ownership of Dublin City Council. There is no record of a formal naming of this bridge. It was noted that under the Commemorations & Naming Policy, the Committee will ‘*seek comment on proposals for the naming of major infrastructure*’ as part of the naming process.

There was a delay in this process due to Covid restrictions / social distancing etc.

Members of the public were invited to comment on the proposal, online, 8th July – 9th September 2022. A total number of 969 comments were received via the online system. 450 (46.44%) of the comments were in favour of the proposal; 513 (52.94%) of the comments were not in favour of the proposal.

The proposal to name the bridge was considered again and in detail at the CNC meeting on 1st December 2022. As required under the policy (section 16.3), a vote was taken by members present to confirm the proposal to name the bridge, with the result 5 in favour and 3 against.

Under the Commemorations & Naming Policy (section 13), proposals to name infrastructure must be made approved by the full City Council.

The Commemorations & Naming Committee now proposes that the SPC adopt the motion:

That this SPC approves the proposal from the Commemorations & Naming Committee that the bridge over the Royal Canal at Russell Street be named “Bloody Sunday Bridge” and recommends that this proposal be approved at a meeting of the full City Council.

**Brendan Teeling,
Deputy City Librarian
27th February 2023**