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## Report to the Finance Strategic Policy Committee Crowdfund Dublin City

### Background

The Finance Strategic Policy Committee has championed and supported the introduction of Civic Crowdfunding to Dublin City Council over recent years. This has involved market engagement and evaluation, an open competitive tender process and selection. This project has been led by the Finance Department with a small group including staff from Procurement, Information Systems, Sports and Recreation and Housing and Community. Dublin City Council awarded a contract to Spacehive, a UK based provider of a civic crowdfunding platform. Crowdfund Dublin City went live in Q3 2023, accessed through a microsite on the Spacehive platform. Briefing sessions were held for the benefit of Elected Members, Dublin City Council staff, external stakeholders and potential project creators. Crowdfund Dublin City was formally launched by Ardmheara Daithi de Róiste on 3<sup>rd</sup> October in the Oak Room of the Mansion House.

### Project Objectives

The primary objective of the introduction of civic crowdfunding is the creation of opportunities for community engagement at a local context. Building on connections made into the future is also a key aim. In addition to benefiting communities, the project must protect and safeguard pledges made of whatever value, during the crowdfunding process.

### Crowdfund Pitches

The submission deadline for pitches for funding was 29<sup>th</sup> November. Applications were regularly assessed by Dublin City Council during the funding window. A social media campaign encouraged participation. Seven submitted projects are at the submitted for verification / verified / fundraising stages. The projects focus on a range of activities from gardening to bio-diversity to local history to community development to sports and healthy communities. (See Table 1).

Table 1 Projects and Purpose

	Project	Purpose
1	All Quiet in the Tents	Local History leading to a publication
2	Ballyrun	Encourage greater participation in running
3	Crumlin and the way it was	Local History account republished
4	Grow Food & Friendships	Food resilience and community development
5	Renovation of community garden	Bring existing community garden back to use
6	Swifties Tower Suites	Encourage bio-diversity through bird life
7	The Casual-TEE Ward	Clothing recycling

## Locations of Projects

The seven projects are spread across Dublin City (See table 2). Four of the seven projects are located on the Northside while three are located on the Southside. The submission deadline for pitches was 29<sup>th</sup> November. Applications were regularly assessed by Dublin City Council during the funding window. A social media campaign encouraged participation. Seven submitted projects are at the submitted for verification / verified / fundraising stages. The projects focus on a range of activities from gardening to bio-diversity, local history to community development, sports and healthy communities. (See Table 2).

Table 2 Location of Projects

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Location</b>
1	All Quiet in the Tenters	The Tenters, Dublin 8
2	Ballyrun	Ballymun, Dublin 11
3	Crumlin and the way it was	Crumlin, Dublin 12
4	Grow Food & Friendships	Cabra, Dublin 7
5	Renovation of community garden	Donnycarney, Dublin 5
6	Swifties Tower Suites	Prospect Square, Dublin 9
7	The Casual-TEE Ward	Crumlin, Dublin 12

## Proposed Dublin City Council Pledge

As part of the submission process, all pitches have identified the full expected incurred project costs. Full project costs range from €1,093.45 to €11,146.83. It is proposed that Dublin City Council will make a pledge of 50% of total costs to each project. Individual project values and the total Dublin City Council commitment at €16,719.40 is set out below (See Table 3). The awarding of grants is a Reserved Function. It is proposed that should the Finance SPC agree to the pledges from Dublin City Council (Table 3), a report be brought to the City Council seeking agreement to the payments as listed. Further detail of each project is provided in Appendix A to this report.

Table3 Proposed Dublin City Council Pledge

	<b>Project</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>Dublin City Council Proposed Pledge</b>
1	All Quiet in the Tenters	€ 5,098.90	€ 2,549.45
2	Ballyrun	€ 1,291.45	€ 645.73
3	Crumlin and the way it was	€ 5,650.87	€ 2,825.44
4	Grow Food & Friendships	€ 11,146.83	€ 5,573.42
5	Renovation of community garden	€ 5,740.08	€ 2,870.04
6	Swifties Tower Suites	€ 1,093.45	€ 546.73
7	The Casual-TEE Ward	€ 3,417.18	€ 1,708.59
	<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 33,438.76</b>	<b>€ 16,719.40</b>

**Kathy Quinn**

**Head of Finance**

**with responsibility for ICT**

**18<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

## Appendix A – Confirmed pitches

### 1. All Quiet in The Tenters

#### **About**

The Tenters area is located in the south central inner city area of Dublin. Originally known as the Fairbrothers Fields Housing Scheme, this was the first Tenant Purchase housing scheme of the newly formed Free State, to be built by the Corporation of Dublin 1922-1924.

A heritage group of people who are interested in the social history of The Tenters will write, edit, compile and arrange printing of one thousand copies of a 28 page booklet. The booklets will be distributed by hand to each house in The Tenters area and selected adjacent streets, all within the Dublin 8 area.

We intend to produce a collection of these booklets, each one with a different theme. We will encourage participation from residents past and present to ensure an all-inclusive representation of the Tenters for all to enjoy. This will also provide a wider audience and reflect the changes throughout the 100 year lifetime of our area.

#### **What we'll deliver:**

- A 28 page booklet containing a number of short essays related to The Tenters.
- Contents will include contributions from local writers of all levels.
- A non-profit project: Project managed, edited, proofed and distributed by members of the Tenters Heritage group.

#### **Why it's a great idea:**

Increase awareness among residents of the rich and varied history and importance of The Tenters area. More personal, neighbour to neighbour communication will be encouraged to promote a sense of community and pride in The Tenters area as well as Dublin 8. The essays will inform and promote a greater sense of place.

As a group we have produced and distributed one booklet entitled "The Tenters Remembered" to great neighbourhood acclaim and cries for 'more'. (See [https://issuu.com/thetentersremembered/docs/the\\_tenters\\_remembered\\_book\\_1\\_](https://issuu.com/thetentersremembered/docs/the_tenters_remembered_book_1_))

The Tenters Heritage group have the knowledge and experience to move on to another booklet with a different focus and a callout to other members of The Tenters community for essay contributions.

#### **Steps To Get It Done:**

- We already have a selection of essays.
- Secure funding.
- Edit, design and typeset entire booklet including covers etc.
- Oversee the printing process.
- Deliver the booklets.
- Promote awareness through Social media, posters etc.

The 'Tenters Celebrated' Heritage Group was formed following the success of the Tenters centenary in 2022. The Tenters centenary was celebrated in a variety of ways during 2022 with the support of Dublin Council Community Development Officers and Historian in Residence Cathy Scuffil.

Dublin City Council Conservation Section commissioned a short documentary about the origins of the area and also engaged a conservationist to undergo some works on our surviving Cló Gaelach street signs. While the original Tenters100 committee is now winding down, The Tenters Celebrated Heritage Group hopes to take up the baton and continue enriching the lives of the residents of the Tenters area by encouraging a greater sense of place and pride in our shared living environment.

**Funding requested:**

Item	Cost
Design and Printing	€4,670

## 2. Ballyrun

**About**

BAC plan to engage with local primary schools in the Dublin 11 & 9 catchment areas to work collaboratively to encourage juvenile athlete ages 8- 18 to engage in athletics. Athletics is viewed in our community as an inaccessible sport particularly for young people due to financial and social barriers.

This project is captures in two ways. Following recent consultation with local primary school principals, the roll out of a Homework pass initiative where by a juvenile will receive a homework pass for their particular school if they attend an initial athletics session. In BAC results have shown that 99% of initial attendees have stayed engaged with the club for longer the 12months.

The second part is by removing all financial barriers for juvenile athletes. BAC is the first athletics Ireland affiliated club that is completely free from registration, event fees, insurance and club gear. Crowd funding support would support the club to maintain this value and meet this need.

**What we'll deliver:**

- Increase juvenile athlete engagement in the club by 50 runners
- Deliver 50 additional sets of free club gear
- Increase number of Ballymun juvenile athletes Compete in local, regional and national athletics championships

**Why it's a great idea:**

The increase in Juvenile engagement will bring an improvement in areas of youth development (socially mentally and physically)

Ballymun has extremely high levels of deprivation on the deprivation index as well as high levels of childhood obesity and youth mental health disorders. Ballymun Athletics club is more than an athletics club when it comes to youth development.

Juvenile and parents feedback to date have included weight loss, improved mental health, significant improvement in focus both in school and at home and also significant improvement in pro social behaviours in the community.

**Steps To Get It Done:**

- Organize training sessions for the juvenile runners to enhance their coaching skills and build their knowledge
- Establish partnerships between Ballymun Athletics Club and primary schools in the community.

- Recruitment: Engage juvenile runners from the Ballymun Athletics Club to act as mentors for primary school students.
- Collaborate with primary schools to incorporate Ballyrun into their regular physical education curriculum.
- Raise awareness about Ballyrun through various channels, such as social media, newsletters, and community events
- Conduct periodic evaluations to assess the impact of Ballyrun on the participating children's levels of activity

#### **Funding Request:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
50 x Athletics Ireland registrations	€750
50 x Singlets	€1,125
50 x ¼ Zip tops	€1,250

### 3. “Crumlin and the Way it Was” Republished

#### **About**

We're recreating Finola Watchorn's 250-page book "Crumlin and the Way It Was," last printed in 2009. The print files were discarded and there is no digital copy. With Finola's permission, our local society group, Crumlin & Walkinstown History Group, will retype, reformat, recreate, and publish the book. No copies are currently available in the library, and there's high local demand. We aim to make it accessible to all and ensure that the local historical content is available for future generations. The money will be used to reprint the book and promote and enable online sales of the book, with any excess to be reinvested into local history projects in Crumlin and Walkinstown.

#### **What we'll deliver:**

- Printing of 750 books
- Promotion and book launch
- Development of webpage to sell book

#### **Why it's a great idea:**

The project's benefits extend beyond the immediate goal of recreating a historical book, fostering community unity, educational opportunities, and sustainable practices while contributing to the broader cultural well-being of Crumlin.

#### Preservation of Local History

The project ensures the preservation of Crumlin's rich history by recreating and republishing an important historical reference book, making it accessible to both current and future generations.

#### Educational Opportunities:

Schools, researchers, and history enthusiasts will benefit from the recreated book, gaining valuable insights into Crumlin's past. The project promotes educational opportunities and fosters a sense of pride in local heritage.

#### Steps To Get It Done:

- Re-creating the book from scratch completed

- Sending book to print
- Launch Event
- Selling/Distributing copies of book

Suggested Backing options:

€20+: Book Enthusiast

- Free copy of the recreated book to be picked up at launch event.
- Invitation to the physical launch event.

€50+: History Buff

- All previous rewards.
- Signed copy
- Exclusive access to behind-the-scenes updates during the project.

€100+: Time Traveller

- All previous rewards.
- Limited edition hardback print copy of the recreated book in place of soft cover copy.
- Name mentioned in Acknowledgements section.

€500+: Heritage Guardian - All previous rewards.

- Special acknowledgment as sponsor in the book and on the project's - website.

#### Funding Request:

Item	Cost
Allowance for book launch	€250
Printing of 750 Books	€4,000

#### In Kind Funding:

Item	Cost
Editing, Proofreading 250 page	€2,500
Layout and design of 250 page book	€2,000
Archivist – Scanning 300 Photos	€2,000

## 4. Grow Food & Friendships in Dublin 7

### About

Since 2022, Community Roots has been making successful garden-share pairings across Dublin 7.

In 2023, we received a Dublin City Council Neighbourhood Award for our work.

Our aim is to build both climate-resilient and connected communities - tackling social isolation, promoting skill-sharing and improving health and wellbeing for all.

#### OUR VISION:

We envision everybody being able to grow and share some of their own food.

We imagine flourishing partnerships and friendships forming within connected communities everywhere — ones that cross the generational divide, and socio-economic and cultural backgrounds — between neighbours who have called their place 'home' their whole lives and those who may have only recently moved in.

### **What we'll deliver:**

- We'll make at least 10 garden-share pairings (10 garden owners matched with 10 budding growers)
- 2sqm raised bed supplied will be supplied to each pairing along with:
- Good quality compost
- A variety of seed packs
- Access to an online growing course for each participant
- An in-person growing workshop
- All guidance & support needed for the whole growing season

### **Why it's a great idea:**

The benefits to this scheme are many and varied. Here are our top 5:

1. Learn how to grow food, sharing previous knowledge & experience.
2. Bond over a shared experience, nurturing community connection.
3. Enjoy mini harvests.
4. Reduce food waste and CO2 emissions.
5. Improve health and wellbeing

### **Steps To Get It Done:**

- All the necessary equipment will be purchased in March 2024
- All pairings will be set up and growing food together by April 2024
- We will host a workshop for all our garden-share pairings during the summer

### **HOW IT WORKS:**

1. Interested participants sign up via our online form ([communityroots.ie](http://communityroots.ie)), by calling us or at in-person information sessions.
2. We pair garden owners or budding growers living close by. All of our current garden-share pairings live within walking distance of each other.
3. Prospective garden-share pairings meet each other with our volunteer coordinator for a coffee (out treat!).
4. All going well, we then visit the garden to set up the raised bed in consultation with the garden owner.
5. Our pairings receive all equipment and resources free of charge.

### **SUPPORTS:**

We have public liability insurance & safeguarding protocols in place.

### **Funding Request:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Raised beds x 10	€1,800
Online GIY grow course x 20	€1,500
850l Compost x 10	€1,500
GIY Grow box x 10	€450

## 5. Renovation of Community Garden

### About

Our community garden is a focal point at the top of our road and is the first thing that is seen as you access / pass Clancarthy Road. We are looking to get a landscape architect to help us draw up a plan to transform the community garden and have it more low maintenance without losing its character and retaining the beautiful silver birch trees.

At present the community garden has silver birch trees and perennial shrubs that bloom in summer and winter. However due to the natural shedding of the trees it is becoming more difficult to keep the garden maintained due to the age profile of our committee.

Once we have a design layout, we can then focus on implementing the design.

### What we'll deliver:

- Design plan for the garden

### Why it's a great idea:

There is a lot of footfall and traffic that pass by the garden on a daily basis. Turning the garden into a more manageable area will bring the following benefits:

People who live very close by will have pride in the area

Local children can see nature at its best with the trees and various plants that we have

It will be more manageable

### Steps To Get It Done:

- Engage landscape architect to draft plan
- Receive design plan from landscape architect

### Funding Request:

Item	Cost
Engage Landscape Architect	€1,000

## 6. Swifties Tower Suites

### About

There are many reasons why Swifts & other magnificent birds are in decline, one we can all assist with is habitat. We can change this. Swifts can live for up to 20 years & like to return to familiar places, to holiday in well-known haunts- modern building techniques & renovations have left little or no space for these enthralling visitors let's change that, let's welcome them & give them a refuge. Their squeals & screams across a summer sky cause us to pause & take in the joy of their acrobatic dance, we stand in awe and for a few moments we pause, we take in the marvel of nature. 'It soared, a bird, it held its flight, a Swift pure cry, soar silver orb it leaped, serene-James Joyce. Prospect ACA nestled in Glasnevin is a haven in the heart of a bustling city. This oasis of green has lost its visiting Swift families, older neighbours share stories of long lost summers gazing at these enigmatic visitors, this little visitors can return & will return if we share we just need a Swift Tower.



**What we'll deliver:**

- Monitoring & Maintaining the location
- Taking part in any research or information gathering for organisations concerned with wild birds
- Updating & informing on progress

**Why it's a great idea:**

Nature & wildlife bring & give us all so much joy. Swift Towers create a welcoming habitat for endangered birds - it creates a generational link as older neighbour can share memories while new generation create new ones. Nature & wildlife help all of us to pause, to admire and give a respite from the noise of traffic & city life

**Steps To Get It Done:**

- A Swift Tower

Swifts offer a kind of hope. They endure miles of travel, they are like little messages of hope across nations, they don't see borders. They share the sky's & as we all gaze, listening out for the squeals & catching a glimpse, we pause we all stop they give us a cherished moment, who does not marvel at their beauty of flight, their determination of travel, the noise that is a promise of good weather. Swifts need a safe resting spot - like so many of us do.

**Funding Requested:**

Item	Cost
Swift Tower	€5,000
Transport	€250

## 7. The Casual-TEEWard Crumlin

**About**

The Change Clothes Crumlin 'Casual-tee Ward' will turn tired old printed t-shirts into, re-newed product for re-sale.

Here's how it will work:

1. T-shirts are received through our permanent swap shop
2. Print is removed by the CCC team using a non-toxic print dissolvent
3. The t-shirt is washed using a foot powered washing machine (zero energy used)
4. Our 'Second Hand is F\*\*\*\*n Grand' slogan is screen printed onto the t-shirt using water soluble dyes
5. The t-shirt is air dried
6. And finally, listed for re-sale on our website
7. T shirt's will cost €10
8. All profits made will go towards Change Clothes Crumlin's local clothing reuse programmes (swap, rental, mending, upcycling)

We promise to do our absolute best to:

1. Ensure a wide range of sizes are available
2. Ensure a wide range of colours are available
3. Make sure the process is social - we will invite local people to take part in the production process
4. Let everyone in Crumlin know that second hand is f\*\*\*\*n grand!

**What we'll deliver:**

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- Backers will receive a 100% discount to choose their own t-shirt when they become available via our online store
- 100% circular, locally upcycled t-shirts will become available for public consumption via our online store

**Why it's a great idea:**

Our project will have a tonne of positive impacts for the Crumlin community, namely:

- > The provision of affordable, sustainable, locally upcycled apparel
- > Piloting of creative and social, first of its kind project supported by a community of local volunteers
- > Working towards creating a local circular economy where less clothing leaves the area for landfill and/or export
- > Profits made from the sale of t shirts going towards supporting a circular community enterprise in Crumlin
- > If this pilot is successful, there is great potential for job creation in a local circular economy initiative

**Funding Requested:**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Selection of Water Based Dyes	€448
Screen printing supplies	€163
Screen printing supplies	€163
Non Toxic Print Dissolver x2	€150
Foot powered washing machine	€96
Fair Trade cotton aprons x10	€81
Environmentally friendly washing powder 5L	€42
Fair Trade rubber glove set x3	€20