

**DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL
SOUTH EAST AREA COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE 13th MAY 2024**

Motion 1 from Councillor Dermot Lacey

This Committee agrees to initiate a competition, to explore what might be a possible use, for the former Open Air swimming baths at Sandymount/Merrion Strand and also to once again initiate contacts with the owners of the Martello Tower on same.

Motion 2 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area Committee agrees that the relevant Departments within Dublin City Council will consider the attached plans and surveys in full with a view to introducing safer access for students and parents attending St Louis Primary School in Rathmines.

Motion 3 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area Committee agrees that the Traffic Department in Dublin City Council shall carry out a local public consultation in advance of introducing any traffic changes, following An Bord Pleanála's approval of the Belfield / Blackrock to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme and similarly, in the event An Bord Pleanála approve the Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor Scheme.

Motion 4 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area Committee agrees that Dartry Park, Dublin 6 should be investigated for its surface quality and following completion of that investigation, the road should be prioritised for road resurfacing.

Motion 5 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area committee requests that the relevant department consider the introduction of a new bench, or the conversion of an existing bench, in Merrion Square for breastfeeding mums similar to what was introduced in St Dominic's Park in Drogheda.

Motion 6 from Councillor James Geoghegan

That the South East Area committee directs the relevant department to provide their assessment of the report carried out by NUI Galway's School of Natural Sciences and Ryan Institute, and authored by Dr Liam Morrison and Dr Sara Harro, into the build-ups of smelly seaweed, as to how their findings could be utilised by DCC to address the build-up of these same smelly seaweeds along Sandymount Strand.

Motion 7 from Councillor Anne Feeney

That this Committee calls on the Council to immediately remove the bollards on the left turn slip road from Zion Road to Orwell Road and carry out a review of an alternative traffic safety approach at Stratford College. The current situation is causing considerable traffic congestion for buses as well as cars at the intersection as traffic coming from Zion Road turning right or left is all now in the one lane coming onto a main road with traffic lights sequencing unable to cope with the congestion. This is causing long bus journey times for the 15B and considerable traffic delays backing up from Zion Road to Bushy Park Road. Alternatives to the bollards (in the interests of safety and traffic management) need to be considered e.g. a school pedestrian crossing on the left hand slip road.

Motion 8 from Councillor Anne Feeney

That this Committee calls on the Council Parks Manager to address the poor state of Palmerston Park. This once beautiful park has fallen into a very neglected state in recent years, despite agreement between Parks Department, local Councillors and Richview Residents Association that the maintenance of this once beautiful park would be addressed in line with biodiversity and heritage park best practice. While the refurbishment of a park building as a tea room is a welcome initiative, it does not compensate for the poor maintenance of the park over the last few years. A report commissioned by the Council in 2013 needs to be revisited with a view to restoring this park.

Motion 9 from Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the manager and councillors to commence the process with Dublin City Council, of making the Green of Kenilworth Square an Architectural Conservation Area in order that the park element of Kenilworth Square is protected.

The proposed alteration includes many tree removals, car parking (17 spaces total) inside three sides of the Green, a synthetic G4 pitch, a hybrid grass pitch, both pitches 100m x 70m, six 18m high floodlighting masts, fencing around the pitches, a very large 10-roomed new pavilion, a Spectator Viewing Area, 38 bicycle parking spaces, and other ancillary features.

With enquiries from many residents living around the green in 88 houses that are on the Record of Protected Structures.

Enquiry was in the Rathgar Residents Association AGM, 11th April. Then on 20th April I spent three hours on Kenilworth Square meeting residents about the issues they contacted.

The enquiry states:

Synthetic G4 pitches and floodlighting masts are utterly inappropriate on this important heritage square. We apply for Architectural Conservation Area designation to protect the park element of Kenilworth Square. Eighty six of the 88 houses on the Square are protected structures and are zoned Z2. Dartmouth Square, a similar but much smaller Victorian Square, obtained ACA status in 2008 after a lengthy controversy there. Residents of Kenilworth Square are united on this issue. From heritage, environmental and community perspectives this proposal is utterly wrong. It is a commercial venture by a private institution, with the local community completely excluded, and not even consulted prior or even during the drafting of the proposals over a four-year period.

Although Kenilworth Square has all RPS around the green, therefore, the Planning and Development Act 2000 [as amended] shall confirm necessity of heritage in this area.

Next: Some proposals provided publicly by St Mary's College:

St Mary's College wishes to invest in the sports facilities in Kenilworth Square, and to make the facility available for use by community-based sports clubs.

- The all-weather pitch to have six artificial lighting fixtures on 18m poles and

1m-high fences. The lights will not have any spillage onto the path or road (See lighting report and photo of Rathmines pitch, below) and will enable the facility to be used by local clubs in the winter evenings.

- A full tree replanting programme. The existing trees were planted in the 1950's onwards without present-day consideration for species, wildlife or durability. Of the 188 trees & two hedges in the sports grounds, 108 (and the two hedges) have a life expectancy of only 6+ years, 77 16+ years, and 3 have a high quality & value with a life expectancy of 40+ years. Regardless of other development, Kenilworth Square requires a long-term tree & hedge planning programme.

The proposed development summary: Pavilion Redevelopment:

- The design is focused on replicating the scale of the existing facility while accommodating modern changing room facilities and positioned between the two pitches.
- The new pavilion plan has a sedum grass roof and is powered by solar panels, heat pump, eliminating the need for fossil fuels.
- Elements include four changing rooms (26m² each), flexible layout for larger changing rooms, a multi-purpose room (15m²), social space (29m²), shower and w/c units, accessible w/c, external w/c, two small offices/coaches' rooms, kitchenette, plant room, and covered bicycle parking for 38 bicycles.

Ancillary Works:

- Landscaping and Arborist Plans for improved boundary landscaping.
- Spectator area in front of the new Pavilion building.
- Car parking areas with 11 no. standard and 2 no. accessible parking spaces.
- 2 no. Emergency car parking spaces at East and West entrances.
- New vehicular gate entrance instead of a pedestrian gate to the east, with pedestrian gates at East, South, and West boundaries.

Motion 10 from Councillor Deirdre Conroy

To ask the manager and Councillors to request Dublin City Council to resolve the Zion Road, Orwell Road, Bushy Park Road, Wasdale Grove area. I have been contacted to bring this to City Council by majority of local residents and I have walked the area for three hours on Friday 19th April, meeting the residents with this issue on the bus and car traffic congestion. Heritage property in the area, Protected Structures, residents also request the change of the 'yellow pencils' Bollards on the footpaths.

Enquiry:

Residents strongly object to the proposed removal of the slip road from Zion Road to Orwell Road in front of Stratford College as this will create even more traffic congestion on Zion road. The proposal to block the slip road will undoubtedly make the conditions more dangerous and would be negligent.

Zion road is already chaotic at school times with parents parking on footpaths and obstructing resident's driveways on Zion Road. It is dangerous for children cycling to High School and Zion parish schools. Blocking off the slip road will make this worse and lead to even more dangerous conditions for cyclists and pedestrians, as the buses are unable to pass when cars are parked on either side.

Zion road has three schools on it and the proposal only addresses the problem for one of them in isolation. The bus connects will divert even more buses down Zion Road and clearly a better option to provide a safe drop off zone near Herzog Park which backs on to Stratford?

Next Enquiry:

The serious traffic congestion in this area since the installation of bollards to close off the slip road coming from Zion Road onto Orwell Road. Morning buses for Zion Rd bus stop were delayed by 30 minutes as traffic had built up from the junction as far back as Rathfarnham Rd/Bushy Park Road T junction. Cars trying to get to Bushy Park Road are also blocking traffic trying to get into Terenure Village. The time taken to reach residents houses in Rathgar village coming up Zion Rd has increased substantially as we have to queue behind all cars heading right for Orwell Rd.

- What is the Dublin City Council purpose of blocking the filter Road?
- We believe the bollards should be removed and traffic flow restored.

Next Enquiry:

Closed the slip road from Zion Road to Rathgar Road - Bollards have been installed where the yellow is marked on the image below. This has been designed by planners who have no knowledge of the area. It is near impossible for more than one vehicle to turn left if a bus is trying to turn left, as there is no room. This meddling in road layouts is ridiculous and badly thought out, it creates further traffic issues.



Motion 11 from Councillor Danny Byrne

That this area committee agrees to write to the relevant government departments to request that when planning permission is granted in a local community that there is a gain for that local community depending on the size of the development.

Motion 12 from Councillor Dermot Lacey and Fiona Connelly

This Committee requests the Traffic Department to examine the proposals put forward in the text submitted with this motion in relation to St. Louis Primary School

and to report back before the Summer break as to what measures can and will be implemented regarding same.

Motion 13 from Councillor Pat Dunne

This area committee notes that the leadership team in St. Louis Primary School in Rathmines has over the past few months, been working with a local architect, to create possible interventions to make the entrances of the school safer for students who are walking, scooting or cycling. They have gathered ideas and opinions off the students, parents and staff of the school, and have created both low-cost and higher-cost interventions that they believe will create a safer route to St. Louis for over 600 students and their parents.

In acknowledging this great work we ask that the Dublin City Council School Safety Team link up to help and assist in this project.

Motion 14 from Councillor Pat Dunne

This area committee acknowledges the lack of community space available in the Crumlin area. Groups such as the CCMA, Blooming Crumlin and local support groups have to rely on school halls and parish centres to host activities.

In acknowledging the lack of suitable accommodation for the community that Dublin City Council will look at the possibility of developing a Civic Centre in the Crumlin area that would provide for the accommodation of these and other such groups.

Motion 15 from Councillor Tara Deacy

That this committee agree to prioritize the provision of double yellow lines at Casimir Avenue. That the committee support immediate action in the event that emergency services cannot access households that such incidents be addressed promptly. Residents have stated they are not looking for double yellow lines in Casimir Court but for them to be painted on the approach road, Casimir Avenue as a matter of urgency?

Motion 16 from Councillor Pat Dunne

This area committee notes with concern that following the NTA Bus Connects changes whereby the old 17 & 18 routes were replaced by the new S2, S4 and 76 that a major gap in bus services exists in the Kimmage Crumlin area. Bus access to Crumlin Village from the eastern side of Crumlin no longer exists.

This oversight in the roll out of the new routes means that many elderly people cannot get to the post office, shops and church. Despite assurances on 21 March by NTA officials that they would provide a service this still has not happened.

We ask the NTA to immediately rectify this gap in bus services.

Motion 17 from Councillors Carolyn Moore and Hazel Chu

That this area committee notes the report produced by the school board and parents of St Louis on foot of a mobility audit conducted over an extensive period of time with students, parents and staff; surveying the general neighbourhood and traffic pattern; and providing clear data that illustrates why the current situation must be addressed for the safety of the students and those who work and visit the school.

This committee commends the school board and parents for their work in trying to create safe access for children attending the school; for endeavouring to encourage

active travel and sustainable mobility; and for engaging positively and constructively with Dublin City Council on these matters.

As such, this committee commits to the recommendations outlined by St Louis's School on Williams Park and agrees that traffic engineers and the DCC school zone officer should meet with the school board to review the report with a view to rolling out advanced school zone measures for St Louis in consultation with the school board and parents. The following aspects recommended in the report should be implemented and resolved immediately, ahead of a roll out of longer term school zones measures including the investigation of long term measures recommended in the St Louis's report.

Immediate issues to be fixed:

- Resurface Louis Lane and resolve surface ponding issue.
- Resurface existing footpaths to ensure that they are accessible to all and free from trip hazards.
- Upgrade existing street lighting
- Build out footpaths to create a traffic calming point at the junction between Louis Lane and Leinster Road with pencil-bollards along the edge of the build out and dished kerbs where necessary for road crossings and to allow for driveway access to adjacent houses.
- Remove the existing mini roundabout at Williams Park and build out footpaths to create a traffic calming point at the junction between Williams Park and Ardee Road with pencil-bollards along the edge of the build out and dished kerbs where necessary for road crossings and to allow for driveway access to adjacent properties.
- Install "No Straight Ahead" signs to the western (cul de sac) section of Williams Park for certain times and/or for access only.
- Reverse traffic flow on Williams Park in advance of Bus Connects implementation.

With further investigations on the viability of the following longer term measures:

- Install zebra crossing with Belisha beacons at Louis Lane to provide a safer crossing point and to give a clear indication to traffic approaching from both directions that there is a pedestrian crossing at this point.
- A raised table crossing would also be desirable at this point and would be suitable given the 30km/h speed limit on the road, however the requirement to maintain vehicular access to Louis Lane makes this difficult to implement.
- Raised table zebra crossing with Belisha Beacons at southern end of Ardee Road.
- Raised table crossing at start of cul de sac section of Williams Park.
- New buff-coloured road surface to entire cul de sac section of Williams Park to indicate it is a pedestrian priority area.
- Automatic rising bollards at start of cul de sac section of Williams Park with fob controls for residents and teaching staff and sensors for emergency vehicles.

Motion 18 from Councillors Carolyn Moore, Fiona Connelly and Anne Feeney

This area committee agrees that DCC Parks should take in charge the public park at Marianella on Orwell Road in line with the relevant planning condition imposed on the development and with a commitment to maintain the park to its current standards. To this end, this committee requests that DCC Parks should instigate a roundtable meeting including Parks, the Marianella Owners Management CLG, Cairn and local

councillors, with a view to resolving any outstanding issues preventing DCC from fulfilling its obligation under the planning conditions.

Motion 19 from Councillors Claire Byrne

That this City Council calls on the Area Manager to actively progress with the feasibility study of the pedestrianisation of South William Street which is an objective in the City Development Plan 2022 to 2028.

Motion 20 from Councillors Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to immediately resolve the legal issues surrounding Benson Street / Chocolate Park and to actively move forward with the development of this crucial public space for the residents of Grand Canal Dock.

Motion 21 from Councillors Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee once again calls for a meeting with the housing manager to provide an update on the development of the IGB site and to set up the community liaison group as a matter of urgency.

Motion 22 from Councillors Claire Byrne

That this Area Committee calls on the Area Manager to please repaint the Pride walks advance of Pride 2024.

Motion 23 from Councillors Carolyn Moore

This area committee agrees that it is vital that any proposed redevelopment of Kenilworth Square must be mindful of the need to protect the architectural integrity of the square which contains 86 properties on Dublin City Council's Record of Protected Structures. Accordingly, this committee supports a proposal to initiate a variation of the Dublin City Council development plan to include Kenilworth Square as an architectural conservation area.

Motion 24 from Councillors Fiona Connelly

The Rainbow mile in Dublin's City Centre is a significant cultural representation of our inclusive and diverse city. (Starting from Outhouse LGBTQ+ community and support centre along Capel Street to Parliament to Dame Street on to South Great Georges Street at The George Bar/club Ireland's longest and oldest LGBTQ+ venue) I commend DCC for this strategic Art installation supporting and including our LGBTQ+ residents and visitors. I also commend DCC in the visual support for pride month when flags are flown in support of Pride month. I commend DCC in the funding and support that they give to hosting the Pride March & Parade and other adjacent events in Dublin city centre the fiftieth anniversary Dublin Pride March takes place on Saturday, June 29th, 2024.

Unfortunately many of the rainbow crossings are worn and in need of an upgrade. These crossings need to be prioritised so that they once more showcase the cities support for our LGBTQ+ residents and tourists 365 days a year.

In requesting for these art installations to be upgraded and improved plus additional strategic crossings/ public art works this committee reaffirms its commitment to an Inclusive City Centre.

I request that this committee liaise with roads maintenance to ensure that these visual artistic installations are repainted and updated in advance of Pride month in June this year. I also request that this committee look at placing more strategic

crossings and art works in the Rainbow mile to ensure that our city remains vibrant and inclusive in particular for the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebrations of Pride.

Motion 25 from Councillors Fiona Connelly

Could parking at Stannaway Park be supported with planters placed at strategic locations to prevent cars parking on the footpaths? This week cars were parked on both sides of the road preventing buses passing through, this would also impede emergency vehicles. Busses being blocked leads to travel disruption for many locals and discourages people from using public transport. The issue with emergency services being blocked is very concerning for all community members.

Motion 26 from Councillors Fiona Connelly

For this committee to write to Minister Eamon Ryan requesting that he in his role as Minister for Communications object to the sale of Rathmines Post Office and commit to keeping Rathmines Post Office open to serve the community.

Motion 27 from Councillor Hazel Chu

That this area committee agrees that: Noting that the Bus Connects traffic impact assessments have not considered transport mobility measures that were implemented as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic or as a result of area committee's agreed calming measures for particular areas, Dublin City Council will discuss with the law agent and endeavour to ensure that these measures, Covid-19 pandemic or other such calming measures in around that period are not reversed when the Bus Connects Core Bus Corridors are being implemented. In particular, the existing arrangements for traffic on Mount Pleasant Avenue Upper should remain unchanged. However that such attempts should not impact on the overall scheme or other traffic calming measures to be implemented by the Bus Connects scheme. That this area committee agrees that the local authority charging strategy which is funded be rolled out to include a localised on street strategy and that a meeting is set up for the councillors of the incoming term with DCC and ZEVl on timelines of roll out and what other possible innovations there are that are being tried by the council.

Motion 28 from Councillor Hazel Chu

That this area committee agrees that on foot of Irish Water not willing to come and present at Dublin City Council and answer many of the concerns raised by residents that we as an area committee writes to the relevant Minister to outline the various issues raised by the public and Irish Water's lack of clear complaint procedures and unwillingness to engage with elected reps in this council.

Motion 29 from Councillor Hazel Chu

That this area committee agrees to one or all of the following to tackle dog fouling:

DNA testing of dog fowl similar to Leitrim and the UK

Increase enforcement wardens especially at peak times similar to that of Bangor.

Motion 30 from Councillor Hazel Chu

That this area committee agrees to Zebra Crossing outside St Mary's Mount Eden Road and another one on Belmont Avenue outside Tesco to the Morehampton Pub, since it is currently a hazard and risk to the many children crossing these junctions. Or at the very least that the school zone officer and traffic will meet with the school board

and principle to discuss safety measures for the students in the Mount Eden Road campus of St Mary's.