



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

**Meeting: 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

**Item No: 22**

**Ballymun Area Office Report October 2016**

- 1. Community Update**
- 2. Housing/Estate Management**
- 3. Ballymun Economic Development/Town Civic Alliance**
- 4. Safer Ballymun/Drumcondra Glasnevin**

## **1. Community Update**

### **General Community Activities**

**LECP Consultations:** Three area based consultations were organised and collaboratively run by NWA Community Staff Members and NWAP Staff in relation to the LECP 2016/17 and took place as follows: Finglas Area: 14<sup>th</sup> September 11-1pm, Ballymun Area: Civic Offices: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2pm-4pm, Cabra Area: Blind Village: 26<sup>th</sup> September 7-9pm. All of these consultations which were based around the twelve high level goals set out in the LECP were open to residents and community groups from all areas of the North West Area. Further surveys were carried out in Drumcondra and sent out to various groups within the area. Feedback is being collated at present.

**Community Grants Scheme 2016:** The Community Development General and Adult Education Grants have been sent out to all relevant community groups in the Ballymun, Whitehall, Santry and Drumcondra areas. A number of new community groups have been identified and we aim to support these groups through the grant scheme and through relevant contact throughout the year.

The Ballymun Fun Run was organised by the Sports Development Officers and the Community Development Team in collaboration with local schools/youth projects and took place on Wednesday the 21<sup>st</sup> September between 10am and 12pm. It was a good success with over two hundred and fifty local children in attendance.

## **Social Inclusion**

### **Older People**

Positive Aging Week took place between Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> September and Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2016. The Positive Aging Week Committee (strongly supported by the Community Team Members) met throughout the year and put together a fabulous programme of events/activities for older people in the local area. The Programme included a Ballroom of Romance (in Setanta), a pampering morning and a Film Showing (in Axis), a Mystery Tour, a Quiz (in Burren Court), a walk in Santry Woods and an afternoon music session in Marewood Court.

The Community Team organised a Gala Concert which took place on Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> September from 8pm-10pm in the Atrium of the Civic Buildings. The Deirdre Duffy School of Irish Dancing, The Monday Club Male Choir, Katie and Declan Rooney and the Dublin Airport Singers provided a colourful array of music and dance that was enjoyed by all. It attracted older people from the area and was a huge success. The Community Team worked with DCU and Third Age on a community event, known as Operation Conversation, which took place on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> October from 2-4pm in Albert College Park. This Family Event aimed to breakdown some of the barriers between young people and older people, dispel myths and promote a health intergenerational conversation. The event was attended by a number of local community groups and youth agencies as well as members of Comhairle Na N'Og. Community Team members attended and manned an information stand at an Information Fair for Older People on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> September in Corpus Christi Parish Hall in Drumcondra. Follow up meetings in relation to Community Activities were arranged at this event with a number of local community groups. General Meetings took place with Active Living Group, BADIG.

**Mens Sheds:** There is ongoing contact with the Ballymun Mens Shed in relation to their proposed new premises in the DCU Community Garden. Community Team members attended an advocates men sheds meeting with the IMSA and graduated from a Community Leadership Certificate along with men sheds advocates from all over the country. An initial meeting took place with St Michaels House in relation to setting up a Mens sheds for users of the service.

**Baile Na Laochra Residents:** Community Team members have been working on a collaborative project with DePaul Ireland, O Cuileann Housing and Poppintree Youth Project to engage the young people of

Baile Na Laochra in the upcoming Otherworld Festival. Two art/crafts workshops have been arranged and will take place in Poppintree Youth Project whereby the young people with design craft items to be displayed at the Otherworld Festival. The Residents will also be encouraged to take part in the Parade this year (Balbutcher Side). The young people will also take part in a community mural activity to brighten up the hoarding at the boundary of Baile Na Laochra and O Cuileann Site. Contact details for DePaul Ireland are Graham Fitzgerald Depaul Community and Outreach Services - Ballymun Case Management Team 01 8916103 [ie.depaulcharity.org](http://ie.depaulcharity.org).

### Events/Festivals

There are ongoing meetings with the Ballymun Festival Steering Committee in relation to the Otherworld Festival. The Event is in the final stages of planning and many community groups have been approached to take part in the parade and event this year. Ongoing meetings are also taking place with the Gardai, Event Organisations, Vendors, and Security Firms. The Festival will run on similar lines to last year with extra effort being put into a revamped Parade. The local youth projects are linking again with Axis this year to create an Enchanted Forest. Among the new groups involved are the Sillogue Ladies Group who will be setting up a Witches Brew Café, Doon Court Residents and the Baile Na Laochra Residents.

### Environmental Initiatives

Continued linking with local environmental groups around the local area which are continuing to grow and flourish. A good number of local groups won prizes at the City Neighbourhoods Competition and the Tidy Towns Competition.

## **2. Housing/Estate Management Updates**

<b>Ballymun Rent Assessment Update</b>	
	<b>September 2016</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	263
<b>Permission To Resides</b>	5
<b>Refunds</b>	14
<b>Opening of Accounts</b>	17
<b>Closing of Accounts</b>	8
<b>Front Counter Calls</b>	398
<b>Window Replacements</b>	3

### C.C.T.V

The C.C.T.V system is working well. The system has undergone its scheduled PPM in the last number of weeks – this work included checking all of the cameras and updating the monitoring station in the control room.

### Cleansing / Waste Management

Waste Management and the area office are continuing to combat illegal dumping at open spaces. These measures include using the C.C.T.V system to monitor and identify those responsible. The area office has targeted illegal dumping around Shangan, Termon and Knowth Court and a number of tenants have been called and warned about their behaviour.

### Ballymun Lettings January - September 2016

Allocation Category	Housing List	Transfer List
Band 1 Priority		
Welfare	6	1
Travellers	2	
Surrendering Larger	1	1
Medical	6	2
Homeless	10	
Regen		2
Band 2	8	5
Band 3	12	12
Sub Total	<b>45</b>	<b>23</b>
Total Lettings	<b>68</b>	

### Estate Management January - September 2016

No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Drug Related	32
No of Anti social complaints per 1997 act Not Drug Related	163
No of other Complaints	
Total Complaints	170
No of Anti Social Interviews per 1997 act	77
No of Other Interviews	27
Total Interviews	104
No of Requests for mediation	1
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	2
No of Section 20 Evictions	
No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti Social Behaviour	
No of Notice to Quits sent to Central Unit	
No of Court Orders Granted	
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	

## Ballymun Voids

Address	Number	Type	
Ballygall Parade	87	2 Bed	Under Repair
Belclare Park	43	3 Bed	Under repair
Collins Place	30	3 Bed	On Offer
Coultry Drive	29	3 bed	Under repair
Coultry Drive	87	2 Bed	Under repair
Coultry Drive	96	2 bed	Under repair
Griffith Road	21	2 bed	Under repair
Hampton Wood Ave	103	1 Bed	
Hampton Wood Rd	11	2 Bed	
Longdale Terrace	3	2 bed apt	Under repair
Marewood Crescent	64	1 Bed	Under repair
Shangan Avenue	34	1 bed	Under repair
Shangan Road	323	2 bed	Under repair
Shantalla Road	66	3 bed	Under Repair
Silloge Green	3	1 Bed	Under Repair
<b>Senior Citizens</b>			
Albert College	30	OPU	
Domville Court	3	OPU	
Domville Court	11	OPU	
Sandyhill Gardens	3	O.P.U	On Offer
Sandyhill Gardens	4	O.P.U	
Sandyhill Gardens	20i	O.P.U	On Offer
<b>Pyrite Refurb</b>			
Sandyhill Terrace	5		
Doon Court	8		
Owensilla	53		
<b>Pyrite Long Term</b>			
Carton Court	12		
Carton Terrace	6		
Carton Road	10		
Owensilla	3		

### Pyrite

Pyrite works have started in the Carton Area on the first five houses. Families were moved temporarily into the local area and are expected to be back home before Christmas. All residents will be informed of potential move dates and phases in the coming weeks. This will be done by letter drop and calling door to door. Any enquiries on same can contact Connell McGlynn on 01- 222 5730.

### Halloween

The Cleansing Section and the Public Domain Section in conjunction with the Area Offices is putting plans in place to tackle illegal dumping ahead of Halloween, in particular the removal of any potential bonfire material. An information campaign is ongoing in industrial estates and housing estates to highlight the need to keep all sorts of materials secure and prevent illegal dumping also.

### Coultry/Shangan/Forestwood

The local office is engaging with new community groups in Shangan, Whiteacre and Coultry which has resulted in new neighbourhood initiatives such as clearing parking bays, tree pits and footpaths. Work on clearing the tree pits in Forestwood and Sallowood is now complete. Residents continue to work to keep these areas tidy, work on planters and monitor the upkeep of gardens and green spaces also. Most areas now have active residents involved in keeping the area in good shape. Dublin City Council continues to supply equipment and planting materials required. Dublin City Council are currently getting tenders/prices to have all houses treated and washed in the Woodhazel and Coultry Terrace areas.

### Poppintree/Courts

The Parks Section in conjunction with the Community and Public Domain Sections around Dolmen court has been installing tree planters. Local residents are busy painting boundary walls and keeping green areas and gardens tidy. A number of painting and environmental projects have taken place in Poppintree in conjunction with the Public Domain and Community Sections. This has made a phenomenal difference to the lives of the people in the surrounding areas. It has helped bring communities together and enabled people to take pride in their areas, as well as being a factor in alleviating dumping in some of the more problematic areas. Paint, clean up equipment, and plants are supplied by DCC, who also remove bags after clean ups. A number of these projects include Doon Court, Belclare Grove and Belclare Park, all of which have won prizes in the City Neighbourhood Awards.

Residents have started painting and planting work in Knowth Court and Graigue Court and they hope to enter awards next year. If residents are interested in doing painting/environmental projects in the Ballymun/Santry/Whitehall area contact Astrid Green 2225715 Public Domain or the Community Section 2225725/2228526.

The Parks Section is still monitoring the pond in Poppintree for pollution. To date there have been no further reports of illegal dumping there.

## **3. Ballymun Economic Development/Town Civic Alliance**

### **Economic Strategy**

The Economic Sub-Committee met on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and there were updates from Annabelle Conway, Innovate Dublin and Mick Creedon, Ballymun Jobs Centre, who gave a presentation on unemployment.

### **Stimulating Economic Activity**

Free Wi-Fi for the Plaza: The kit for the Wi-Fi is being ordered and Eircom have been contacted to free up the line.

Vacant Neighbourhood Retail Units: The Economic Development Officer now has access to the vacant DCC units. A brochure has been produced to market each of the units and "To Let" signs have been produced. The current status of the vacant DCC units is:

Location	Ownership	Status	Comments
Coultry Unit B	DCC	T&C's offered for a new café	Planning has been approved for a new café in Coultry.
Coultry Unit C & D	DCC	Vacant	This unit is almost ready for letting
Shangan Court Unit 2	DCC	Occupied	This unit is almost ready for letting
Turnpike Santry Cross Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	Dog's Aid are applying for Planning permission
Silloque, Unit 3	DCC	Vacant	This unit is available for viewing by prospective tenants
Unit 9 & 10 Main St.	Private	For sale (POA)	Tenants (Boyle Sports & Dynasty Chinese) unaffected, 3,154 sq. ft.
Unit 1, Gateway	Private	Vacant	KPM Management co.
Unit 2, Gateway	Private	For sale (€75,000) – sale agreed	Tenant (Miami Sun) 1 year into a 5 year lease, 546 sq. ft.
Unit 6, Gateway	Private	Sale agreed	Tenant (Ridgeway Barber) unaffected , 560 sq. ft.
Santry Cross	Private	For sale ((700k) or rent (70,000)	Core shell with 4 car parking spaces, 7,347 sq. ft.
St. Pappins	Private	Sale agreed	

### Enterprise Unit database

A database of all publicly and privately owned units in Ballymun is now completed. The database includes:

- Location map
- Drawings
- Photos
- Owner details
- Status (Receivership / available etc.)

### ‘StartUp Ballymun’ October 2016

- Robert Murphy will open the event
- Topics will include growing your business in a digital world
- There are 5 speakers confirmed to date with more to follow
- Salvatore Fanara, MD of Travelling Languages, [www.travellinglanguages.com](http://www.travellinglanguages.com) - your language school on the road....
- Lorcan Bannon, Head of Client Strategy, Olytico, [www.olytico.com](http://www.olytico.com) - Social media listening

- Ross Killeen, MD Event Junkies, [www.eventjunkies.ie](http://www.eventjunkies.ie), a one-stop shop for production, shooting and editing needs, with a quick turnaround
- Elaine Cohalan, Dublin Cookie Company, [www.thedublincookieco.com](http://www.thedublincookieco.com) freshly baked cookies to order or buy in their cookie shop 29 Thomas St.
- Auveen Bell, Social Enterprise & Co-Founder of Blossom Ireland, [www.blossomireland.ie](http://www.blossomireland.ie), therapy-led camps and after school activities for children with intellectual disabilities aged 8 to 18 Currently serving all of Dublin, with plans to extend services nationwide

In addition, there will be information about the €2.5k website grant and free one to one business mentoring.

#### **Ballymun4Business (B4b)**

- The network meets every two weeks
- There are now 28 active members
- A tender for a new website has just been made public
- A Communications Administrator will be recruited through Job Bridge

#### Civic Alliance Update

A meeting of the Physical/Environmental Sub Committee took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Issues discussed included an update on the LAP and the Boiler House Project, as well as an update on the progress of the Ballymun Town Centre Wi-Fi Project. A meeting of the Economic Sub Committee took place in the Civic Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> October. The Economic Development Officer, Liam Barry, gave updates on the Economic Development Plan, vacant units and the short term initiatives for Economic Regeneration. It was reported that the Northern Site will be back on the market in the coming days and the CPO oral hearing for the Shopping Centre will commence on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Safety Fora**

##### Safer Ballymun

The next meeting of the Safer Ballymun community Safety Forum will take place on Tuesday October 18<sup>th</sup> in the Council Chamber, Ballymun Civic Centre. The Deputy Mayor will be in attendance on the night to launch Safer Ballymun Week. There is a wide programme of events planned for the week from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Events include an Inter Agency soccer match, a senior citizens safety talk, a BADIG information afternoon and a Garda Station Open Day.

##### Drumcondra Glasnevin Community Forum

The most recent meeting of the Drumcondra/Glasnevin Community Forum took place on Wednesday September 28<sup>th</sup> in the Maples Hotel, Drumcondra. The meeting was chaired by Donal Barron and the Gardaí present gave statistics for the period from the last meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Issues discussed on the night included anti-social behaviour in the area and the recent traffic survey and consultants report in relation to traffic issues in the area. The final meeting of the year is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**Mary Taylor**

**Assistant Area Manager**