

**Director of Services Report
South Central Area Committee Meeting
9th December 2020**

SOUTH WEST INNER CITY ELECTORAL AREA

South West Inner City Area Report

A look ahead to planned public realm projects in early 2021:

Francis Street Environmental Improvement Scheme

Contractors for Dublin City Council, KN Networks, will be undertaking a 10 month programme of public realm works at Francis Street throughout 2021. The programme will take place in stages with traffic management in operation for the duration of the works. Ongoing communication with businesses and residents will be provided by KN Networks.

Meath Street and Environs Public Realm Improvement Project

Preliminary design work on planned public realm improvements for Meath Street is ongoing. It is proposed to bring the project to Council for Part VIII consent in the spring.

Bridgefoot Street Park and Environs

Construction work on the park is ongoing. It is expected that the park will open to public use in early summer 2021. An accompanying project to green the central median of Bridgefoot Street will commence in January with work taking place over 3-4 weekends.

James Street Median

Public realm improvements and a planting scheme have been developed for the median area at James Street. The project also includes resurfacing of the steps at Cromwell Quarters. Tendering has now been completed and it is hoped to undertake the work in February.

St Catherine's Park, Thomas Court

The final tranche of work to enhance this small park is underway including laying a gravel surface along the east side of the park where gravemarkers are clustered, upgrading paths in the park and clearing overgrowth. Completion of these works will allow the park to reopen to public use in late January.

St James's Walk Linear Park

A first tranche of work to landscape the section of the linear park at MISA entrance/ Fatima Luas stop is now scheduled for early 2021. A public consultation on the overall masterplan is going via www.dublincity.ie.

Dolphin's Barn

The Area Office is proposing a number of measures to improve the condition of public realm in Dolphin's Barn including: street furniture TLC, decluttering of street fixtures, greening and improved parking enforcement. The Area Office will continue to support local residents and businesses to enhance the village.

Pimlico

Replacement of damaged areas of lawn on the green will be undertaken in early spring. Bulb planting has been completed here and at the landscaped area at Marrowbone Lane. Environmental improvements to the raised planter areas at Thomas Court Bawn housing will be completed shortly. These included replacing seating and new planting to the 3 beds.

Oisín Kelly Park/ Basin Lane

It is planned to remove the boundary fencing of this green area and refurbish the plinth wall and to make enhancements to the grounds to improve openness and accessibility to this green area early next year.

The Area Office, in partnership with Parks and Landscaping Services, is also developing a number of other greening and public realm improvement projects across SWIC to continue the delivery of The Liberties Greening Strategy and neighborhood enhancement projects.

Housing Updates SWIC.

Bonham St .Dublin 8. Volumetric Build

57 26 x 1 bed 26 x 2 bed 5 x 3 bed	On site	Completion of scheme	Q3 2021
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DCC have designated a community liaison (Mark McInerney) to engage with residents regarding their concerns.

Mark can be contacted @ 0877371254 mark.mcinerney@dublincity.ie

Cork St/ Weaver St. Volumetric Build

55 32 x 1 bed 10 x 2 bed 13 x 3 bed	On site	Completion of scheme	Q1 2022
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DCC have designated a community liaison (Veronica Hand) to engage with residents regarding their concerns.

Veronica can be contacted @ 0870997512 veronica.hand@dublincity.ie

Margaret Kennedy SQ. Dublin 8.

54 8 x 1 bed 18 x 2 bed 28 x 3 bed	On site	Completion of scheme	Q1 2021
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St Michael's Estate Emmet Road Dublin 8.

Emmet Road, D.8 (St. Michael's)	Design Team Appointed May 2020. Planning to be lodged April 2021.
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Tyrone Place D8. Regeneration.

Study underway .Report due for completion.

Liberties Cluster D.8.

Study underway.

Oliver Bond Regeneration.

Oliver Bond short and long term proposals presented to the Councillors at the South Central Area Committee Wednesday 18th Nov 2020. Oliver Bond resident's consultations facilitated by the Robert Emmet CDP will end on the 14th Dec. A report from

the Robert Emmet CDP regarding the outcome of those consultations will be presented to DCC Housing Dept.

Dolphin House Regeneration Masterplan Dublin 8.

Six consultation meetings have taken place with DCC and Dolphin House Regeneration Board facilitated by CAN regarding agreement for a Dolphin House Masterplan.

Status: Ongoing

Kilmainham Mill

The construction team appointed to carry out the enabling works to the Mill will begin with a “kick off” meeting with Project Manager from Dublin City Council and Howley Hayes Architects, on the 4th of December with the structural works due to commence in early January 2021 for a duration of 6 to 7 months.

KILMAINHAM INCHICORE NETWORK:

Turvey Park improvements. Local community involvement in planting continues. The small football pitch has been resurfaced, with goals replaced and reinstated lighting. Discussions around hosting football tournaments on the pitch are underway.

Tyrconnell Road at Jamestown Road : Phase 2 of environmental improvements at this western gateway to Inchicore will commence week of 7th December 2020. This will include the planting of five trees and the expansion of the flower beds. This project has been funded by discretionary funds.

Emmet Crescent Planting: A collaboration between Our Lady of Lourdes NS, Core YS, Local Residents, DCC Parks, Public Domain and Housing have planted new flower beds at Emmet Crescent. Tree planting will also take place. Maintenance will be carried out by OLOL NS Green Team and caretaker.

Bus Connects The 3rd round of Bus Connects Public Consultation is underway. Link to Route 7: Liffey Valley to City Centre <https://busconnects.ie/initiatives/core-bus-corridor/liffey-valley-to-city-centre/> . Submissions on the bus connects proposals can be emailed to cbc@busconnects.ie deadline 16th December 2020.

INCHICORE REGENERATION CONSULTATIVE FORUM

An **animated display** of the Integrated Design Team Design Layers is on view at the new Emmet Road **Project Office**, 6 Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore Village. Under current covid restrictions, the office will not be open to the public.

Bucholz McEvoy, the design team Architects, for Dublin City Council’s Emmet Road site, have prepared a display of their design thought process, through the use of five design layers. The information within the layers provide insight into the research and findings of the design team to date and the design principles at this feasibility stage.

Worksheets for receiving public feedback to feed into the overall design process are available from the **project website** www.emmetroad.ie .

As a result of the constraints of Covid19, an outdoor community exhibition on the Emmet Road site has been rescheduled to January 2021.

An IRCF Consultation Process Subcommittee, set up to help with the practicalities of the Consultation Process, meet bi-weekly.

Merritt Bucholz presented to the IRCF Education Subcommittee on a recorded zoom meeting, Thursday 19th November. 30 persons involved in various aspects of education in the area attended the meeting.

The next monthly meeting of the IRCF takes place: Monday 21st December 2020, 1pm.

Community

The Magic of Christmas:

Just when we were beginning to think our annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was off the list for this year, Guess what happened....

With a little sprinkle of Santa dust and more than a sprinkling of virtual Magic, Whoosh!

Roll Call and check list please:

Will there be Christmas trees? Yes Cornmarket & Dolphin's Barn

Will there be a countdown? Yes

Will there be lights? Yes

Will there be a Santa? Yes

Will there be a children's choir? Yes

From St Audeon's School? Yes

From Loreto Primary School? Yes

Will there be an actor? Yes

Will there be a special Christmas Eve Story? Yes

Will it be magical? Of Course, it will be MAGICAL!!!!

Watch this space! Dublin City Council South Central Area Facebook, Instagram & Twitter

A Christmas Carol Selection Box - Annual fund raising event for Dolphins Barn

Dublin City Council's Community Development team continue to support The Back of the Pipes Residents Association and Dolphins Barn Parish, on the production/recording of A Christmas Carol Selection Box.

Sixteen professional actors, musicians and singers, have freely given their time for this event. In line with Covid 19 restrictions, each performer will be filmed individually in the church performing seasonal and topical pieces. Recording commenced on Sunday 29th November and will be completed on Friday 4th December.

Due to Covid 19, the event will be recorded and viewed virtually from Our Lady of Dolours Church, Dolphins Barn. Viewers will be invited to donate online to The Peter McVerry Trust and through the links promoted by The Peter McVerry Trust, through the promotion of this event through their various media outlets. RTE Lyric FM Radio and RTE Radio 1 have graciously accommodated them with a mention on various programmes also.

The Peter McVerry Trust will retain all funds raised at this event, for the Dublin 8 area. The event will be broadcast on 13th December, and will also be available for viewing and donations throughout the Christmas period until the 14th January 2021

Guinness Storehouse Annual Seniors Christmas Lunch

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the annual senior's lunch for neighbours in the Guinness Storehouse cannot take place this year. Dublin City Council Community team is currently working with the Storehouse team to look at alternative options to reach out to neighbours this year. Further information to follow.

Schools Archival project 2020

The Archival School's project is now underway. Letters are currently been delivered to twelve of our local schools in the Dublin 8 area, inviting children to record their stories and experiences of the last few months. Following a handing over ceremony to Dublin's Lord Mayor, this material will be stored in the Dublin City Archives.

Dublin Bus, Supporting Community and Voluntary Groups through Community Spirit Awards

Dublin Bus and its employees announced the launch of the 2020 Community Spirit Awards (CSAs) and invited local voluntary and community groups to apply. Any group located in an area served by Dublin Bus can apply for a grant of €1,000, €2,000 or €5,000.

Application forms for the 2020 Dublin Bus Community Spirit Awards are available now at www.dublinbus.ie and will be accepted up to 17.00 on December 21, 2020. Successful applicants will be notified by Dublin Bus from 15 February 2021 onwards.

Clanbrassil Close

Landscaping work has commenced at a site that had caused concerns to local residents of Clanbrassil Court. Under the supervision of Parks and Landscapes Division, the work is well under way.

Tree pruning and planting Ceannt Fort Mount Brown

Following consultations with the residents' representatives from Ceannt Fort estate, Parks and Landscapes Division will be carrying out some tree pruning in parts of the estate. Also there will be some removal and replacement of trees and also new shrubs to be planted at the triangular area entrance to the estate. This project is a joint venture between Eblana House and Parks and Landscapes Division. Work is due to commence before Christmas.

Community Development Grants 2021

We are awaiting a decision on the allocation of the above grant allocation.

Public Domain

Graffiti has been removed from Lambe Alley, Cornmarket, James Street and Meath Street. A list of all sites with tagging has been given to PMAC for treatment over the coming weeks. A clean-up operation of Francis Street littered and tagged sites will begin shortly. This coupled with public realm improvements will benefit this street and environ.

Dolphins Barn has been treated for weeds and further improvement will take place heading in to 2021.

The Green Team from Our Lady of Lourdes National School supported by Parks have planted up the area immediately outside the school on Emmet Crescent. A number of other initiatives will be supported by Public Domain and KIN in the Inchicore Area i.e. Luby Road, Devoy Road and Turvey Park. 71 Letters have been sent to residents in the area requesting information on how they dispose of their waste. This campaign is ongoing. Flyers on managing domestic waste have issued to residents of Rialto Cottages and Pimlico.

A total of 836 CRM incident requests have been actioned by Public Domain from Jan 1st to 30th November 2020.

Report from: -

Bruce Phillips,

Senior Executive Officer

South West Inner City Local Electoral Area.

BALLYFERMOT/DRIMNAGH ELECTORAL AREA

Housing Projects

Chapelizod/Springvale Site

Work on the site is progressing well with no issues arising. No further update in relation to legal position Expected completion date Q4 2021.

3.8 Acre Site at Sarsfield Road

Stage 1 application for presentation to Dept. Housing Local Government & Heritage being finalised by City Architects. The next steps for the Working Group is to consider the design proposals and ensure that the local residents are kept fully apprised with the next meeting of the working group to take place early 2021.

Cornamona Site

Work continuing on site although at decreased capacity. The expected completion date is Q2 2022.

Crumlin Road/Rafters Lane Site

The demolition and site clearance planning process is ongoing. Part 8 has been advertised and is available for inspection, by appointment, in Crumlin and Ballyfermot Area offices.

Bluebell

An on-site investigation of the Old Irish Water Site by the archaeology consultant was delayed by administrative issues, but is due to take place soon. The CCTV along the canal has been repaired and is in full working order. Bluebell Community Council has been given new premises to work from to facilitate public consultation.

Lissadell Maisonettes

Refurbishment continuing on the vacant maisonettes at Lissadell. Public Domain working with Housing Maintenance around clean ups in the area.

Cherry Orchard Green

Further landscaping works planned for early 2021 and engagement continuing with the local residents who have formed an environmental group.

Skate Park Le Fanu Park

The proposed fencing in the skate park has been ordered. The proposal is for a 2.4m high weldmesh to both skate and play park, it will be the same type as around the pavilion and changing rooms in Le Fanu Park. It will be early in the New Year before the railing is installed. An Garda Siochana continuing to monitor the Park. BYS continue to engage with local youths and has had a serious impact in negating the anti-social activity in the area.

Kylemore Park

The contractor is on site and work is continuing on the upgrade. There has been some incidences of anti-social behavior around the fencing etc. and An Garda Siochana has been asked to increase patrols in the area. Familibase and the restorative practice worker has been engaging with the residents and the youths in the area. It is hoped to have the works completed by end of year or early 2021.

Ballyfermot Civic Park

It is hoped to commence work on the Ballyfermot Civic Park in January 2021 when the selection of the preferred contractor has been finalised. Further meetings will be arranged between the landscape architect, the artist and the community reps. to discuss all elements of the project.

Markievicz Park

At the request of residents, alterations have been made to the gate at O'Hogan Road entry point, an additional bench will be installed, and quotes are being obtained to replace the table and benches, which were vandalized. The damaged bin will also be replaced.

Cherry Orchard Park

A meeting was held on site on Wed 2nd Dec. to discuss minor repairs to the Astroturf pitch for use by the Cherry Orchard Running Club. It was agreed to repair the lights and the fencing and ensure that the area is kept clean for use. The Running Club have agreed to assist in maintaining the cleanliness of the Park. When these works are completed, the area can be assessed for further upgrade while a full plan is being implemented for Cherry Orchard Park under the Local Area Plan.

Christmas Trees & Lighting

As outlined in November's report, all seven sites for Christmas trees are completed with lights on living trees or LED trees. There has been very positive feedback from residents in the Ballyfermot/Drimnagh area regarding the new installations, which was a concern as, due to Covid 19 restrictions; we were unable to have the normal consultations and engagement. The proposal for planting living trees in a number of the sites, in conjunction with Parks Services, will be happening in early 2021.

Christmas Meals for Older Persons

Given the restrictions around gatherings, the annual Christmas dinner in the Civic Centre cannot take place this year. However, DCC are working with Ballyfermot/Chapelized Partnership, Family Resource Centre staff and Civic Centre staff to co-ordinate a Christmas dinner delivery on the lead up to Christmas. It is also proposed, to include a Christmas pack to include items such as selection boxes, battery operated candles, warm socks etc. The dinners will be prepared in the Resource Centre and the Civic Centre and delivered by vetted volunteers to older persons who are living alone.

Community

Christmas Newsletter

Distribution of the Community Winter Newsletter Together Apart has commenced targeting 4000 older people in the area. Volunteers throughout the area are delivering the Newsletter on a street-to-street basis.

One remarkable outcome of this project is the commitment of 14 local groups to support deliveries and help with the local book lending hubs. The Newsletter will be delivered to all residents in receipt of Meals on Wheels Services and Older Peoples Networks.

The newsletter will be shared on Dublin City Councils social media platforms, digitally through a mailchimp campaign and by email from friendsofthesouthcentral@dublincity.ie

Community Tree Lighting Projects

There has been an increase in Residents in Ballyfermot and Cherry Orchard forming Street Committees to clean up their street and place solar lights on the trees. The Council and the Ballyfermot Environmental Group is supporting the groups with Clean up Packs and assistance towards lights in the hope of connecting the groups and organising regular Clean Ups in 2021

The Ring Street Youth Group is going from strength to strength in their new premises. The Group are organising solar lights for some of the trees in Jim Mitchell Park to commemorate deceased Residents from the area.

The City Council supported the Assumption Church in Ballyfermot and Our Lady of Good Counsel Mounse Road to replace their festive lights and to complement our New Christmas trees.

Covid Community Call

The Community Call Helpline is still in operation. Council staff are working locally to ensure that local service organisations, including Meals on Wheels, St. Vincent de Paul and Parish groups can respond to requests for help.

In compliance with the Public Health guidelines, there are no Christmas Parties or public gatherings being organised by the Council in December. Great credit is due to community organisations that have plans in place to deliver meals over the Christmas period.

The Council is supporting a local initiative to light a candle of remembrance On December 21st the longest night of the year, to remember those that have passed away during 2020.

Community Development Grants 2020

Payment of the 2020 Community Development and Informal Adult Education Grants for the Ballyfermot / Drimnagh Area is now completed.

Community Development staff are working with the Arts Office regarding the Applicants for the 2021 Neighbourhood Arts Grants.

Allotments

Work to install unit dividers is completed in the shed in the Bluebell Allotments and each allotment holder has their own small storage space. An inspection of the plots took place in November to ensure that all plots are being utilized.

The allocation of the plots in Chapelizod went well. Forty of the plots have been allocated with one remaining to be allocated to a local Community Group. There is great interest from the allotment holders to establish a committee so they can work together to get planting this season.

The Community Development staff contact details for Ballyfermot /Drimnagh area are:

Scott.watson@dublincity.ie 087 1643170

Miriam.flynn@dublincity.ie 086 8151320

Victoria.kearney@dublincity.ie 087 6009002

Orchard Centre Update.

Despite Level 5 Covid-19 guidelines being reduced to Level 3, the details of same mean the Orchard Community Centre are very restricted for the remainder of 2020.

We look forward to exciting programming in 2021 to include Circus Training, Disability Services amongst new additions to compliment all of what takes place in the Centre. We shall also have the official opening of the new Sports Hall extension.

The Stone Soup Project working in support from DCC staff, were nominated for a national Pride of Place awards recently. Whilst they did not come out as winners on the evening, to be recognised on the national stage is a superb achievement. Thanks also to City Council staff member Bernie Lillis for her support.

With Christmas on the horizon, the community team for the area continue to monitor the Covid helpline as we have done since late March.

The final weeks of the foodbank 2020 will continue and the centre shall close for Christmas on 23rd December, however as mentioned before the building itself can be opened if requested for emergency services as we have done in the past.

The staff of the Orchard Community Centre would like to wish all our friends, colleagues and our local Councillors the very best for the next few weeks and a peaceful and healthy 2021!

Public Domain

Graffiti removed/overpainted at Bluebell Walkway along the canal. The area connects Inchicore and Bluebell and the seating bins and wall were covered in graffiti.

St Oliver Training Centre and surrounding building in DCC ownership, has had some works completed to remove illegally dumped material and fly tipping from the grounds and rear site. Large Concrete blocks have been placed along the avenue to prevent vehicles from entering the site. The site will be monitored regularly.

Due to Covid restrictions, the name stones for Muskerry and Camac Park will not be available until the New Year.

Further Landscaping works will take place December/January in Cherry Orchard Green/Elmdale social housing scheme.

95 letters have been sent to residents in the area requesting information on how they dispose of their waste. The campaign is ongoing. Flyers have issued to residents of Tyrconnell Road on managing domestic waste.

Report from: -

Kay Noonan,
Acting Senior Executive Officer
Ballyfermot/Drimnagh Local Electoral Area.