



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

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

Meeting: 16th January 2024

Item No: 7

Ballymun Area Office Report

- 1. LAP Update**
- 2. Ballymun Social Regen Update**
- 3. Community and Social Development Update**
- 4. Economic Development Update**
- 5. Housing Report**
- 6. Area Wide Updates**

1. Local Area Plan Update

Turnpike, Santry Cross

We are continuing to advertise these units and facilitate site visits. It is listed on Daft and enquiries can be made to liam.barry@dublincity.ie there were 2 viewings during December. For further information: [Commercial property for rent in The Turnpike, Santry Cross, Ballymun, Dublin 9 \(daft.ie\)](#)

Shop-front Improvement Scheme

5 grants totalling €15,000 were approved in 2023 from businesses in the Ballymun and Finglas area. Three of these business have drawn down their grant as well as one carried over from 2022. There is a balance of €6k to be drawn down in 2024 from grant approved in 2024. The Shop-front Improvement Scheme will be rolled out again in 2024 if local DCC funding can be identified to support the initiative. Promotional material and information will be prepared once funding is secured.

Site 14 (part of site) Proposed City Farm Project

Following on from the update provided in the June 2023, North West Area Committee report. The City Farm Committee engaged a specialised consultant to work with the City Farm Committee to review the current proposed Ballymun City Farm Business Plan and to make recommendations on areas that the City Farm need to address in order to develop a robust viable Business Plan for submission to the City Council. As agreed Dublin City Council contributed €12, 950 towards the cost of completing the works.

Dublin City Council outlined their requirements and timelines to the City Farm Committee in writing on the 20th March 2023 and again on 27th July with slightly amended timelines as the process to engage a Consultant had taken longer than anticipated.

While the timelines set by Dublin City Council were not met, on the 18th December 2023 we received a Ballymun City Farm, 2023 Business Plan Review, prepared by SLR Consulting Limited, in association with Nevin Associates and Haller Clarke. The document was circulated to all the relevant DCC officials along with a request to ascertain suitable meeting dates in January. Further information re meeting date and a copy of the document to following once meeting date confirmed.

2. Ballymun Social Regeneration Fund 2024

A sum of €1,700,000 is allocated to the Ballymun Social Regeneration Fund for 2024. This funding is to continue to support the process of social regeneration in the area. The social regeneration objectives for Ballymun are set out in Sustaining Regeneration – A Social Plan for Ballymun. Applications for the 2024 fund closed on December 15th 2023. 22 applications in total were received. The total amount of funding applied for was €2,270,719, which is €570,719 over the allocated budget of €1.7m.

The Assessment Panel are meeting on several dates in January 2024 to consider each application/programme proposed under this fund to ensure that the criteria as stipulated was met, all supporting documentation was in order and the service provision outlined in the work plans is in line with the objectives as set out in Sustaining Regeneration – A Social Plan for Ballymun.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome by Friday 26th January, funding for successful groups will commence on February 1st 2024. A further detailed report on the allocations of funds will be presented to the February or March Area Committee meeting.

3. Community and Social Development Update

General Community Development

The Community and Social Development Team are currently completing reviews of 2023 projects and are working on the 2024 Ballymun Community plan. The team have met with the Finglas Community Team and are currently organising meetings with Axis Ballymun and various groups in relation to collaborative ideas for 2024.

The Community and Social Development and Adult Education Grants for 2023 are currently being processed and will be issued to groups early this year.

Marewood Christmas Event

The Ballymun Community & Social Development Team collaborated with the Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre to host a Community Christmas Event for local senior citizens, local groups and the Poppintree Walking Group. This took place in Marewood Court Community Room on Thursday 14th December 2023 and there was a great turnout. Everyone enjoyed a lovely afternoon of music, dancing and festivities.



Intergenerational Christmas Afternoon Team

The Community Team held an Intergenerational Christmas Event in the Ballymun Civic Offices on Wednesday 6th December. We linked in with Trinity Community Care to invite some of their clients to come along. Afternoon tea was served and there were lots of Christmas songs and dancing. Local groups, students from Trinity Comprehensive and young people from BRYR attended to enjoy a lovely afternoon of music and dancing.



Sensory Christmas Event

Following on from the success of our Halloween Sensory Sessions the Community & Social Development in collaborated with Axis Ballymun on a Christmas Sensory Friendly Experience for children with additional needs and sensory sensitivities. This took place on Tuesday 19th December in the Axis Theatre and it was a great success enjoyed by all the children and their families.



Introduction Pickleball Programme

In conjunction with Pickleball Ireland, a 6 week introduction beginner's programme is commencing on Friday January 12th at Poppintree Sports & Community Centre from 12-2pm. A successful taster session took place in October as part of positive ageing week, so there is definitely interest in this new initiative. Pickleball is a hybrid game incorporating elements of tennis, table tennis & squash, it is very popular with older adults & people with impaired mobility.

Dublin City Council
presents
6 Week Introduction to Pickleball
Starting, Friday 12th of January 2024
AT POPPINTREE SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE
TIME: 12pm-2pm



Programme Dates (Jan 12th, 26, Feb 2nd, 9th ,16th,23rd)

NO COST!

TO REGISTER PLEASE CONTACT :

Niall McDonald on mobile 086-8151297

Caroline Dillon on mobile 087-2915239

Email: ballymuncommunity@dublincity.ie



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Dublin City Council

Distribution of the Smoke Detectors

The Ballymun Community Team kindly received 140 smoke detectors from Dublin Fire Brigade. The team distributed them to members of the Ballymun Community Groups, older and vulnerable residents. The alarms are easy to install, are fitted with a 10 year long-life battery and do not require connection to mains electricity.



4. Economic Development Update

Ballymun 4 business

The final networking event of the year took place in Musgrave Market Place on Thursday 8th December and there was an excellent turn-out. Our key-note speaker was Ger Prendergast who delivered a talk on dealing with set-backs, never giving up and endurance. Ger lost the sight in one eye which curtailed his participation in contact sports leading him to focus on individual pursuits such as Marathon Running, Decathlons and Triathlons. Ger is a former winner of the prestigious Deca Ironman UK. His journey against adversity is captured in his recently launched book 'Gotta Keep it Movin' The event also saw the announcement of the Global Action Plan's 'Climate Action Competition' winner which was sponsored by Dublin City Council. Participants competed to see who could reduce their carbon foot-print the most over a 2 week period. The overall winner was Ballymun based business Copy & Mailroom Solutions Ireland and there was also a special award for Peter Gregory, Green Bubble who won an award for best individual. On the evening we were also treated to some lovely music from Our Lady of Victories Choir while Musgraves served delicious festive treats. The event featured in the Northside People. Further information about the event will be available on the B4b website www.b4b.ie or contact Sabrina Morris info@b4b.ie.



Northside People feature

Before the end of the year a number of business turned out to assist **Trinity Comprehensive School** Transition Year students end of year assessment projects. There was a great showing from B4b and DCC representatives and once again the range of talent on display was hugely impressive and there was great enthusiasm all round from the students.



Climate Action – Ballymun Decarbonisation Zone

Following the Green Ballymun Community Conference in November there was one final 'Decarbonisation Transition Team' workshop facilitated by Codema in December that took place in Axis. The feedback from the conference was collated by Connect the Dots who presented as a number of actions to be considered by the Transition Team. Further work is required on these actions and there will be another workshop in January 2024 prior to the draft plan being produced.

5. Housing Report

Estate Management statistics for December 2023

December 2023	
No of Anti- Social complaints per 1997 act Drug related	0
No of Anti-Social complaints per 1997 act (Not Drug Related)	7
No of other Complaints	3
Total Complaints	10
No of Anti-Social Interviews per 1997 act	7
No of Other Interviews	3
Total Interviews	10
No Requests for mediation	0
No of Complaints referred to central unit for Action	0

No of Section 20 Evictions	0
No of excluding Orders applied for by Tenant	0
No of Excluding orders applied for by DCC	0
No of surrender of Tenancies due to Anti-Social Behaviour	0
No of Tenancy Warnings sent to Central Unit	0
No of Court Orders Granted	0
No of Appeals / Judicial Reviews Challenges	0
No of Warrants executed (Evictions)	0

Rent Assessment statistics for December 2023

	December 2023
Assessments/Calls/Emails	539 / 512 / 549
Permissions To Reside	1
Refunds	5
Opening of Accounts	10 (including sole/ successions)
Closing of Accounts	0 (including 0 sole / 0 successions)
Front Counter Calls	78
Window Replacements	2

Ballymun Lettings January to December 2023

Allocation Category	Housing List 2023	Transfer list 2023	Older persons 2023
Bands 2 & 3	5	2	3
Medical	1	0	1
Welfare	0	1	0
Homeless	0	0	1
Travellers	0	0	0

Transfer Hap	0	5	0
De-tenanting	0	2	0
Estate Management	0	4	2
Maintenance	0	2	0
Surrendering larger	0	3	2
Unable to afford	0	0	0
Succession/sole	21	0	0
Financial Contribution	0	0	0
Ras Exit	0	1	0
Inter Transfer	0	5	0
Transfer		0	3
Total	27	25	12

**Choice Based Lettings
January to December 2023**

Allocation Category	
Housing bands 2 & 3	18
Transfer bands 2 & 3	6
Transfer Hap	4
Medical	2
Welfare	5
Homeless	0
Travellers	1
Surrender larger	0
Total	36

Ballymun Voids December 2023

Vacant Housing Units				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	3 Bed House	21/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	20/04/2024
Balcarris Close	3 Bed House	07/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Balcarris Park East	1 Bed Apartment	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Belclare Drive	4 Bed House	25/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Barnewall Gardens	2 Bed Apartment	14/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	08/04/2024
Coultry Drive	2 Bed Apartment	21/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	08/04/2024
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	03/04/2024
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	08/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	02/04/2024
Coultry Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	05/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024

Coultry Way	2 Bed Apartment	22/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	03/04/2024
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	24/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Marewood Crescent	1 Bed Apartment	28/11/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Marewood Crescent	1 Bed Apartment	05/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	07/03/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	3 Bed House	22/10/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Shangan Avenue	3 Bed House	22/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/02/2024
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Sillogue Close	2 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Silloge Gardens	3 Bed House	11/12/2023	Vacant Possession/ Task Order to be prepared	TBC
Sillogue Way	2 Bed Apartment	29/09/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
The Plaza	2 Bed Apartment	22/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apartment	21/11/2023	Issued to Contractor	08/04/2024

Vacant Housing Units (more than 4 months)				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Baile Na Laochra	3 Bed House	12/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Balcurris Park East	1 Bed Apartment	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Belclare Drive	4 Bed House	25/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Carton Court	1 Bed Apartment	19/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Carton Road	4 Bed House	10/04/2022	Ongoing Estate Management Issues	TBC
Carton Terrace	1 Bed Apartment	26/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	02/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	2 Bed Apartment	21/04/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	3 Bed Apartment	08/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Forestwood Avenue	3 Bed Apartment	08/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	Under Offer
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	26/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Knowth Court	3 Bed House	24/08/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Shangan Gardens	3 Bed House	25/08/2022	Property Vandalised	TBC
Shangan Road	2 Bed Apartment	19/06/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024 CBL
Sillogue Close	4 Bed House	28/07/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024

Whiteacre Close	2 Bed Apartment	03/08/2022	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024
Woodhazel Terrace	2 Bed Apartment	31/05/2023	Issued to Contractor	22/01/2024

Vacant Senior Citizen Units				
Address	Type	Date of Vacancy	Status	Estimated Completion Date
Ard Na Meala	1 Bed	21/11/2023	Direct Labour	TBC
Burren Court	1 Bed	01/08/2023	Direct Labour	22/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	06/09/2023	Direct Labour	22/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	Bedsit	12/10/2023	Direct Labour	22/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	11/10/2024	Direct Labour	22/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	26/11/2023	Direct Labour	20/01/2024
Sandyhill Gardens	1 Bed	03/09/2023	Direct Labour	24/01/2024

6. Area Wide Updates

Area Committee Report, Ballymun Library, January 2024

Ballymun Library continues to engage with the public with a diverse range of in-person activities and events to suit people of all ages.

Let's Get Quizzical! Join us on Wednesday 17th January from 6.00pm to 7.45pm for an Adult Quiz Night. Come along and test your general knowledge. Teams of 4 (or more) are welcome to enter. Some spot prizes will be available on the night thanks to the generosity of local businesses.

To register your team, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

Our **Evening Book Club** is looking for new members. The book club meets on the last Monday of the month at 6.30pm. The next meeting will take place on Monday 29th January to discuss *The Shadow of the Wind* by Spanish writer Carlos Ruiz Zafon. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the library.

If you would like to join the evening book club, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

We are delighted to welcome the **Ballymun U3A** group back to the library for their bi-monthly meetings in 2024 (every second Monday from 2pm-4pm). Ballymun Library was the ancestral home of U3A until the outbreak of Covid-19 when we had to close our doors. The welcome mat will definitely be out for their first two meetings on Monday 8th January and Monday 22nd January. The group was formed in March 2003 and we look forward to helping Peter Brannigan (facilitator) and all the other members of the group celebrate their 20th anniversary this year.

The U3A Ukulele group continues to meet in the library every Friday from 12.00pm to 1.30pm.

Our new **Age Friendly Film Club** meets on the last Wednesday of the month from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. All are welcome to join us for a surprise film screening on

Wednesday 31st January. Seating will be on a first come first served basis, we look forward to seeing you there!

Ballymun Library Gaming Mondays take place every Monday (during term time) from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. The gaming club is suitable for children aged 10-14 years. Under 12's must be accompanied by an adult. All members must have a library card and bring it with them on the night.

PS4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch and Pac-Man Arcade1Up games machine. Selection of board games also available.

Places are limited so booking is essential. To book a place, please ring 01 2228355 or email: ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie

Current Opening Hours for Ballymun Library are:

Monday to Thursday: 10.00am - 8.00pm

Friday and Saturday: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Closed Saturday and Monday of bank holiday weekends

Ballymun Library staff continue to post blogs, historic photos of the Ballymun area and details of forthcoming events and programmes on our Facebook page. If anyone would like to promote any Dublin City Council-related initiative then please email details to ballymunlibrary@dublincity.ie and we will share these on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BallymunLibrary

Ballymun Library offers an online literacy course, Touch Type Read and Spell (TTRS) for both adults and children. TTRS is designed to benefit students of all ages who experience spelling, reading or writing difficulties. Students with dyslexia or literacy issues have found it helpful.

A large number of schools in the area have already availed of the service. Patrons can contact the library by email and Ballymun Library staff will introduce them to the course and offer support.

Ballymun Library Events January 2024

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Non-Regular	Chair Yoga	Chair Yoga in association with Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Partnership (6 Classes, 9 th Jan to 13 th Feb)	Adults	Tuesday 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th January, 1.30pm-2.15pm (booking required)
Non-Regular	Quiz	Let's Get Quizzical Adult Quiz Night, General Knowledge and more.....Teams of 4. Spot prizes on the night courtesy of local businesses	Adults	Wednesday 17 th January, 6.00pm-7.30pm (booking required)
Non-Regular	Workshop	Andy Warhol Pop-Up Screen Printing Workshop for adults with Creative Spark (drop-in event)	Adults	Saturday 13 th January, 12.00pm-2.00pm (no booking required)
Non-Regular	Workshop	Andy Warhol Pop-Up Screen Printing Workshop for children	Children	Saturday 13 th January, 3.00pm-4.45pm

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
		aged 8-11, with Gráinne Murphy from Creative Spark		(Max. 12 places, booking required)
Regular NEW	Community	U3A Meeting (2 nd and 4 th Monday of the month)	Adults	Monday 8 th /22 nd January, 2pm-4pm
Regular NEW	Gaming Club	Gaming Mondays, suitable for children aged 10-14 years. Must be a library member.		Mondays, 5.30pm-7.00pm (Limited to 12 places)
Regular NEW	Age Friendly Film Club	Age Friendly Film Club Film: TBC (Last Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 31 st January, 2pm-4pm
Regular	Cultural	Japanese Culture Club (3 rd Wednesday of the Month)	Adults and Children	Wednesday 17 th January, 10am-12pm
Regular	Community	Ballymun Ladies Group (3 rd Tuesday of the Month)	Adults	Tuesday 16 th January, 2.30pm-5.00pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Library Writers' Group	Adults	Wednesdays, 4pm-6pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun Painting Group	Adults	Mondays, 10.30am- 12.00pm
Regular	Book Club	Ballymun Library Murder Book Club Book: <i>The Christmas Murder Game</i> by Alexandra Benedict (1 st Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 3 rd January at 6.30pm
Regular	Book Club	Evening Book Club Book: <i>The Shadow of the Wind</i> by Carlos Ruiz Zafon (Last Monday of the month)	Adults	Monday 29 th January at 6.30pm
Regular	Book Club	Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club Book: <i>Watchmen</i> by Alan Moore (3 rd Wednesday of the Month)	Adults	Wednesday 17 th January at 6.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Scrabble Group	Adults	Tuesdays, 11am-1pm
Regular	Cultural	Digital Photography Group (Last Thursday of the Month)	Adults	Thursday 25 th January, 10.30am-12.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Ciorcal Comhrá (Irish Language Conversation Group)	Adults	Thursdays, 3pm-4pm
Regular	Cultural	Ballymun U3A Ukulele Group	Adults	Fridays, 12pm-1.30pm
Regular	Cultural	Latvian Art Group	Adults	Saturday 27 th January, 1.00pm-4.00pm
Regular	Children	Chess Club	Children	Tuesdays, 3.30pm to 4.30pm

Non Regular or Regular Events	Event Category	Event Title	Audience	Date and Time
Regular	Children	Baby Book Club & Storytime	Children (New Born to 2 year olds)	Mondays, 10.00am-10.45am (Term-time only)
Regular	Children	Toddler Book Club & Storytime	Children (2 year olds to pre-school)	Thursdays, 10.00am-10.45am (Term-time only)

Jackie O Reilly
Senior Executive Officer
Local Area Manager, Ballymun