



Public Meeting

DUBLIN 12 LOCAL POLICING FORUM

Moeran Hall / W.S.A.F., Walkinstown

Wed 2nd October 2019

Chair: Cllr. Pat Dunne

Attendance: Superintendent Frank Ferry, Inspector Paul Sargent, Sargeant Karl Moriarty, Community Garda Barry Curtin, Chris Butler and John Paul McCabe (Dublin City Council)

Apologies: T.D. Joan Collins, T.D. Bríd Smith, Senator Catherine Ardagh, Cllr Deirdre Conroy

Minutes: Rea Lavelle

Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the audience and introducing officials present, including new Dublin City Councillors Sophie Nicoulaud, Tara Deacy and Patrick Costello, as well as JP McCabe who was welcomed as the Ballyfermot area representative on the Forum. Crumlin is now divided between Dublin South Central and Dublin South East administrative areas, with JP managing the former, and Chris Butler, as previously, the latter. Community Gardaí were also present and can be contacted on a new community.crumlin@garda.ie email. Chair also spoke of importance of follow-up to issues brought up at public meetings. Positives are happening in the area also, including Walkinstown Resident's Association winning third place in the all-Dublin Residential Neighbourhoods competition. There had also been some recent local music and sporting successes. Finally, audience was reminded not to mention individuals by names when raising issues or questions.

Garda Report: Inspector Sargent gave a report of current crime statistics and their comparison to the same week in 2018. Even though number of burglaries was up year-on-year, burglaries have reduced significantly over the last 5 years. Theft from shops has increased, possibly due to the increase of new businesses in the area. Inspector also mentioned the success of the recent Garda youth Award and encouraged anyone wishing to nominate a youth for next year's awards to do so. Superintendent Ferry also informed the meeting that Gardaí have detailed Halloween plans in place, especially around illegal fireworks and will be patrolling known hotspots in the lead-up and through Halloween night itself.

Drug Sergeant Report

Drug Sergeant Karl Moriarty gave a comprehensive presentation of his team's recent work, which has been targeting street-dealers at known hotspots in the Dublin 12 area. Cannabis and cocaine, including crack cocaine or 'rock', are the most often seized drugs. The drug-team are also working with the community Garda team to tackle antisocial behaviour around parks etc.

Dublin City Council Report

Chris Butler made available leaflets detailing Dublin City Council's Halloween plans and all the numbers available to report bonfire materials to, which are included at the end of this document. DCC will collect materials right up to Halloween night and there will be crews and staff from on call from the bank holiday weekend. Chris also gave an update on

developments around Brickfields Park, including the setting up of a new Task Force to look at the anti-social behaviour there.

Questions/Issues Raised by the Public

Issue/Question	Response	Action
The drug sergeant was questioned about size of recent drug seizures, any asset seizures and whether drug-dealers are targeting schools. The behaviour of people who have taken crack cocaine is also thought to be very erratic.	Larger seizures happen from time to time; asset seizures are time consuming but Gardaí do work with CAB to target proceeds of crime	Gardaí are working with schools and will target any school where there may be a problem
Drug dealing at a park in front of young and very young GAA players very blatant; bangers also thrown to the playground and stolen bikes left around; behaviour of the youths responsible is very threatening	Drug unit and community Gardaí have been active in the parks with patrols and operations, however Spr. Ferry welcomed the information	Gardaí to get details and target park more specifically
Drugs being smoked in cars at a residential road, loud music and urination also involved, residents have reported this to the Gardaí several times.		Spr. Ferry took note and will target this area
Residents around Lissadell Green suffering from intimidation		Community Gardai will investigate
What is the average Garda response time to calls?	Calls are assigned priority according to the level of intrusion/danger reported	
Houses along a particular road suffering ASB by specific youths who are throwing rocks at windows etc.; who can help in this situation?	Resident advised to speak to the community Garda present. Juvenile Liaison Officers can also be assigned	Community Garda took note and will take action
New traffic lights at Crumlin Village are causing speeding of cars trying to get through	This is a traffic management issue, Gardaí can look into it	
What exact plans do Dublin City Council and Gardaí have for Halloween? Issues with bins being stolen and sometimes being set alight have already started. Who can help with stolen bins left in the wrong location?	Stealing bins is a criminal offence and should be reported to Gardaí	
Dangerous materials such as broken glass and nails are left on greens after the main refuse left from bonfires has been collected. Is it possible to plant new grass on these sites?	DCC does clean up after all bonfires, but this takes time. Grass can only be planted at certain times of the year	DCC will call back if dangerous materials are left on bonfire sites
Lack of bins at Bunting Park was raised, a particular issue with dog waste gathering as owners had nowhere to but the scooped-up waste, which is gathering in and around the park and is a health hazard, especially for children. Even normal bins are always too full. Dog fouling and bags of picked-up waste left lying around was also a problem around Bangor Green.	DCC are aware of the issue, however, Parks and Traffic Departments have been resisting installation of additional bins. Discretionary Fund was used last year to purchase 5 new smart bins for the Dublin 12 area, but more are clearly needed.	Chair/Cllr. Dunne will keep campaigning for additional bins for the area; this is a long process. Litter wardens are also active around Bunting Park.

Issue/Question	Response	Action
Suggestion was made to contact one of the two new dog wardens in Dublin 12 when a dog/owner is seen leaving waste.	It was the opinion of some that dog waste was only being left because there are not enough bins.	
When hedges were cut around Bunting Road, on the park's side, a few years ago they were cut very short so Gardaí could spot ASB easily. The hedges are very tall at the moment, when will they be trimmed? Some branches are also dangerous	DCC winter crew, will start their rounds, which involve cutting down hedges and branches, from this month.	
Cllr Nicoullaud asked DCC to communicate to residents the details of their biodiversity plan, which include grass verges in certain locations and not using chemical weed killer. These environmental measures were making many parks and pathways look different, but most people were not aware why.	In response to another comment to weeds growing longer this year, Chris explained that weed killer was no longer being used and the process of pulling out weeds manually takes longer	
Issues around dangerous parking on lane behind Thomas Moore Road of people visiting a doctor's surgery. Dumping also rampant on this lane.		Both Gardaí and DCC took note and will target the area in the near future
Are there any plans to target a laneway area where pallets were set alight last year? Are tire centres targeted to see if they are releasing tyres for bonfires?	The laneway has been checked and no pallets are currently stored there. DCC does check tyre centres and is using a new system where the retailer has to be registered with REPAK.	DCC will keep checking the laneway in the run-up to Halloween
A comment was made about the lack of bins/bins always being full despite the €68 million in local property tax collected in the DCC area last year	Chair explained that very little of the so called 'local' property tax gets spent in the local council's area, last year only 4 million out of the 68.	
A suggestion was made to add some planting etc. to the lane leading up to Pearse Park from Star Bingo to brighten up the approach.	DCC can look into this possibility	

Dublin City Council Contact details for reporting storage of Bonfire Materials

Area Contacts

Crumlin Area Office – Tel: 222 5500

email – crumlinarea@dublincity.ie

South East Area Office – Tel: 222 2243

email – southeast@dublincity.ie

South Central Area Office – Tel: 222 5517

email -southcentralpublicdomain@dublincity.ie

Central Departments

Dublin City Council Self Service Portal – <http://dcciservices.dublincity.ie>

Customers Service – 222 2222/ 679 6186 (evenings and weekends)

HALLOWEEN FESTIVAL EVENTS

30th October

Bus trip to the Hell Fire Club

31st October

DOLPHINS BARN LIBRARY

Wanda the Witch Storyteller 11am – 1.30pm

Face Painting – 11.30am – 2.30pm

WALKINSTOWN LIBRARY

Wanda the Witch Storyteller – 2pm – 3.30pm

Face Painting – 2.30pm – 4pm

BRICKFIELD PARK



Zombie Run – 3pm

Model Train – 1.30pm – 3pm

SUNDRIVE PARK (EAMONN CEANNT PARK)

Zombie Run – 3.30pm

Balloon Arch

Stilt Walker 3pm – 4pm

CLOGHER ROAD SPORTS CENTRE

12pm – 3pm

Indoor Events including face painting, Children's entertainer, Games, Haunted House

Outdoor events including Giant Jenga, Connect 4 games, 6pm to 10pm