



**Public meeting**  
**Canal Area Community Safety**  
**Forum**  
**Inchicore College**  
**21/11/23**

**Attendance:** Justin O'Brien (Chair), Inspector Ian Lambe, Sgt Pat Culhane, Linda Fanning (DCC), Frank Murphy (DCC).

**Present:** Garda Sean Gallagher, Garda Stephanie Bible, Cllr Darragh Moriarty, Cllr Michael Pidgeon.

**Facilitated** by Ali Warner

**Minutes:** Valerie Scott

Ali opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and explained the format of the meeting which is held in Café Style. Justin O'Brien welcomed people to the meeting, explained what the CCSF was and stated that we were holding two public meetings per year so that we could have greater engagement with the local community. Justin O'Brien then read out the minutes of the last public meeting held on April 27th. Groups of residents worked together with table facilitators on the questions below.

**What is working well in terms of community safety in the area?**

- Community events
- Christmas Fair
- Samhain Festival
- Richmond Barracks Events
- BERA Hall activities
- Bike Lanes/Speed ramps
- Local Activities such as Basketball, Soccer, Yoga clubs, Scouts.
- Kilmainham Mill
- Repairs of footpaths / Flower Planters
- Neighbourhood watch groups
- Local Watts app groups
- Community Spirit
- FRC Centre, Ring St Youth Club, Core Youth Project.
- Gardaí Presence
- Bulfin Court housing for senior citizens.
- Gardaí have dealt with the drug dealing at Suir Bridge which seems to have subsided.

## What are the issues /challenges affecting Community Safety in your area?

- Lack of outdoor facilities
- Lack of community facilities.
- Library on Emmett Road closed.
- Derelict buildings
- Scramblers/scooters on footpaths and roads
- Open drug dealing on canal and top of Connolly avenue
- Setting bins on fire is ongoing. CCTV is available from BERA hall for Gardaí purpose
- Recent mugging in the Bulfin estate Area
- Lack of Gardaí on the streets. Poor Garda response time
- Break-in of cars, bike theft
- ASB in Goldenbridge Industrial Estate
- Bad Lighting on Canal and overgrown trees/bushes.
- Overflowing of bins Lansdowne Gate/Lack of bins .Dog fouling
- Illegal parking on yellow lines corners and bike lanes.
- Grattan Crescent Park – gates not locked, ASB, rubbish, broken glass. Overgrown shrubbery.
- Playgrounds at Jim Mitchell Park and Bluebell need maintenance works
- Lack of consultation/information on proposed plans for accommodation in aparthotel at Oblate View. Some residents are concerned about what the building is being used for and who will be living there.
- Lack of a trusted source of information.
- Lighting on Ring Street. Speeding on Ring St /O Donoghue St-Speed ramps are badly needed.
- Advertising of meetings not visible enough in the community
- No access to Basketball court beside sports centre.
- Safety on Luas
- Loitering /obscene behaviour happened on Ring St

### Suggested Solutions

- Shrubbery and trees on canal to be cut back
- More Gardaí resources for the area, increase patrols on Luas and canal. More visibility of Gardaí on foot patrols on streets.
- Communication strategy for community information from trusted sources
- More prosecutions/consequences for ASB offences by young people and illegal driving
- Crime prevention officer to survey Grattan Crescent Park and suggest improvements to tackle the issues
- More funding for Community /Youth activities and organisations

## DCC

- Plans for access for Library building are being drawn up and costed and discussions are ongoing.
- DCC are aware of the issue of Bins on Connolly Avenue, cleaning crews are regularly sent out
- Drug dealing issues at Suir Bridge seems to have been resolved at that location. Although it has moved on further up on to the canal and is being addressed by multiagency approach.
- Improved lighting on canal will be installed when new cycle way is in place. Suggestion for residents to make a submission for the need for urgent improved lighting through the Ballyfermot office.
- New DCC community worker assigned to Inchicore who coordinated the recent successful Samhain Event. Some DCC Community Funding is available for community events
- DCCC rep will
  - pass on issues in relation to speeding, the need for ramps etc. to the traffic management and parking enforcement sections.
  - Talk to parks section about the issues in Grattan Park. Ring Street and Bluebell Playgrounds.
  - Ask the New Community worker to link in with sports centre around access to Basketball Court.

## Gardaí

- Inspector Ian Lambe is the new Inspector of Community Policing in Inchicore.
- CCTV-Legislation is being developed but not in place yet.
- Will increase patrols for Grattan Crescent Park and speak with traffic advisory group.
- Community Policing section worked very close with Drugs unit and other agencies to move drug issue away from Suir Bridge , unfortunately the issue just moves somewhere else .Extra patrols will be allocated along the Canal
- There are undercover patrols working on the Luas to tackle ASB.
- Kilmainham Gardaí work closely with Gardaí in the D12 area on joint operations.
- Residents are encouraged to report crimes

**AOB**

There were concerns about the asylum accommodation provision expressed by some attendees, their allegations that the accommodation was for 137 single men was refuted by the Chair and the Partnership. Cllr Darragh Moriarty and Dublin South City Partnership confirmed that Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, has agreed with the private owner of an aparthotel on Tyrconnell Road, Inchicore to provide apartments to accommodate 22 families seeking refuge in Ireland. These families already reside in Ireland in accommodation that is inappropriate for the health and safety of children.

**Contact emails**

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