

Ballyfermot / Chapelizod Community Policing Forum

25th April @ 7.30 p.m.

Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre

Alan Sherry, Dublin City Council,
Inspector Paul Mayock – Ballyfermot Garda Station

Meeting chaired by Councillor Vincent Jackson

Discussion

Councillor Jackson opened the meeting and thanked everybody for coming along this evening. He passed on apologies from The Lord Mayor Daithí De Róiste and he thanked everybody for coming along.

Councillor Jackson introduced Inspector Paul Mayock and Alan Sherry. He said that There will be a presentation this evening from Aidan O'Halloran from Blue Door.

Inspector Mayock passed on apologies from Superintendent Keith Halley and gave the following update:

The Inspector gave the following statistics report:



Ballyfermot	2023	2024	Percentage Change
Assault Causing Harm	12	10	-16%
Burglary	15	16	+6%
Criminal Damage	52	59	+13%
Robbery from Person	1	1	0
Theft from Shop	33	34	+3%
Unauthorised taking of vehicle	13	15	+15%
Public Order Incidents	34	46	+35%
Possession of Drugs for Sale /Supply	16	21	+31%
Breach of Domestic Violence Orders	22	23	+4%
Vehicle Detained Section 41	114	122	+7%

The inspector also reported:

- High visibility patrols continue and local Gardaí have spoken to the Manager in the Spar and will engage in the Restorative Practice Programme with the Youth and Shop Owners. This will show the teenagers how their actions impact on the area.
- JLO has engaged in talks in the local schools
- 7.5 Tonne limit on Kennelsfort Road is being enforced. There are ongoing check points and a number of tickets issued. The Regional / Divisional Traffic Unit have been engaged with.
- Disabled Access at Claddagh Green has been highlighted and increased Patrols have been carried out and tickets issued for illegal parking. Tickets are no longer put on the windscreen they are sent out in the post.
- Illegally parked caravan on Lally Road if not moved will be removed.
- The inspector highlighted the 3rd May as **Go Purple Day** to highlight services available to people suffering Domestic Violence
- The inspector gave details of Significant Crime & Detections, Operation targeting scramblers in the area, Community Engagement & informed that Ballyfermot Garda Station have received 3 new probationer Gardaí from Templemore. He said that a number of Gardaí have started mountain bike training and will be available for patrols. The Strength of the Community Team remains at 1 Sergeant and 8 Gardaí.

Alan Sherry Reported:

Community Safety and Community Engagement is supported by organised activities, most recently the St. Patrick's Day celebrations, Thanks to the Gardaí for their involvement in the events. Future events include Cherry Blossom Festival, excellent across the board for all age groups. It helps young people to see/meet older people. Various events including pop up clinics including the Civic Centre, Orchard Centre and new clinic in Chapelizod. The assistance from Gardaí in dealing with Animal Welfare issues including Dangerous Dogs out in the Community and Horses in public areas or parks. Pitches are being damaged and causing safety issues and preventing their use. We have to reduce horses on open spaces.

Aidan O'Halloran introduced himself as the Coordinator of Blue Door and thanked the Committee for inviting him to give this presentation.

Aidan gave a presentation outlining the services provided.

Located at 83 Cherry Orchard Crescent there is The Coordinator, Community Support Worker and 2 Family Support Workers.

Blue Door is a crisis intervention community development project working with people who experience or engage in harmful behaviour; this includes community intimidation, domestic violence, drug-related harmful behaviour, self-harm, and suicide ideation.

We also support people with housing and homelessness, mental health, and poverty issues.

The project offers one-to-one support with the aim of strengthening people's coping mechanisms and capability to resolve issues; and groupwork that develops people's peer connections in their community and increases educational attainment.

Blue Door operates an in-house counselling service, coordinates the Cherry Orchard Response Group, and collaborates on several of community-based inter-agency networks; actively referring to other services and advocating on behalf of service users.

The service can be accessed by:

Email: aidan@bluedoor83.ie; irene@bluedoor83.ie; janice@bluedoor83.ie

Or by being referred by another service.

2024 (Jan-Mar) 72 people supported by Blue Door (18 new / 97 issues resolved)

2023 138 people supported by Blue Door (71 new / 241 issues resolved)

2022 117 people supported by Blue Door (38 new/ 306 issues resolved)

Aidan thanked everybody again for their time and encouraged anybody that needs support to contact Blue Door.

Councillor Jackson Thanked Aidan for the presentation and said that the Management Committee have provided a box at the back of the hall if anybody has any questions or suggestions please feel free to submit them and they will be responded to at the next meeting. You can also make contact by email to ballyfermot@dublincity.ie

Councillor invited questions from the audience:

-A resident from Cloverhill Road said that it is a great area Looking forward to the Cherry Blossoms Festival, horse riding & food. Thanks to Aidan in Blue Door and all the staff.

-A resident from Blackditch Road asked if the Garda Station is Closing. The Inspector said that it is NOT. The resident continued to say that she is less and less encouraged to contact the station via 999, there are no prisoners there and it is less manned. She also said that the bail conditions are ridiculous, they are only brought in and let go again to start all over again – this is not good enough. They do as much damage as they can because they are already on bail and do not care. She also brought attention to drivers not using their indicators.

-A resident from Chapelizod said that he is delighted with the success of Gardaí taking the scramblers/bikes off the road and such a quick response. The Garda Clinic in Chapelizod is very successful and is 2 Clinics per month with Garda Sarah Piner. The Clinic in Cherry Orchard is great and just a walk in Clinic. The Gardening Course being held in the Peoples Park is great initiative. People do not appreciate the size of the park and the Gardening Group are planting herbs and apples. People will be encouraged to take apples, rhubarb and herbs free of charge.

-A resident from Lower Ballyfermot congratulated Aidan in Blue Door saying that a women and her autistic son have been helped and assisted by Blue Door. Recent raid in Lower Ballyfermot was highly successful, keep up the good work. Question to Dublin City Council – can we get some feedback on the new building works at the old Faulker Site and De La Salle Site.

-Inspector Mayock responded:

- *Ballyfermot Station is not closing. He is permanently based there. Please phone 999 to raise assistance from the Gardaí your call will be logged and recorded on an automated system. This is very important.*
- *Bail issues unfortunately are the responsibility of the courts. The person is notified of the bail conditions and the Gardaí will call to their house if the breach the bail conditions. If the conditions are breached the person is brought before the judge again.*
- *Traffic indicators – will pass along to the Traffic Unit.*
- *Scramblers – this initiative has proven to be very successful – a lot of work is required behind the scenes to ascertain the success.*

○ *The Clinics were requested by the community and very glad that they are successful.*

- A resident of Cedarbrook asked for clarification on the proposed building works – looks like high rise is included
- A resident of Landen Road said that there was an accident on the road and it took 8 minutes for the Gardaí to respond
- Issues around bail was raised, we are all tax payers, it should be taken out of their ‘dole’
- A resident from Palmerstown thanked the Gardaí for their attendance at the St Patrick’s Day Parade they had more people in attendance than usual. She complained about the school traffic on Oak Court Avenue and parking on double lines – preventing ambulances from gaining access. Also anti-social behaviour at the shops and in the laneways. HGV’s on Kennelsfort Road has been brought up previously by another resident unable to attend this evening. Please do not forget about the residents in Palmerstown.
- A resident from Blackditch Road raised the issue of Bus Connects proposed removal of 48 trees between Cherry Orchard Hospital and the Roundabout. Public Representative are due to call a public meeting. There should be consultation/opinion/suggestions taken on board.
- Councillor Jackson said that the NTA are responsible for this plan and do not involve Dublin City Council they go straight to An Bord Pleanala. They will meet small groups in the next few weeks, it is a national plan and there are huge concerns about it.
- Councillor Doolan said that Bus Connects held 2 meetings and submissions were made on view in the Library & Liffey Valley. The Councillors are not ignoring the concerns of the people but the NTA choose to ignore them. The Councillors have done their very best.
- A resident from Raheen Park said that there is a shortage of doctors/pharmacy/separate green spaces for young people. Bus Corridors take a chunk out of our area. Few trees that are there need to remain and not be replaced with concrete everywhere. Local people need space for their sanity.
- A resident said that we should show appreciation to Dublin City Council / Gardaí / Councillors.
- A resident from Drumfinn Avenue said that not everything is on the NTA website.

Alan Sherry said that the plans are not Dublin City Council lead but are the NTA – would encourage people to go on the NTA Website – there are good and bad stuff there.

The proposed building works in Cherry Orchard are with the LDA – the land is owned by Dublin City Council. The proposal is with An Bord Pleanala and a Summer decision is expected. There will be an information meeting and notification will be given of this.

Councillor Jackson said that there are an additional 6 large planters for the area. He said that at a national level there are changes happening to the Community Safety Fora. Expressions of interest are sought and notification of this will be advertised. He wanted to extend his thanks to the Inspector/Sergeant and their crew for all their support.

Councillor Jackson thanked everybody for their active participation.

Councillor Jackson brought the meeting to a close and thanked everybody for coming along

NEXT MEETING 4th July, 2024 @ 7.30 p.m.