



Minutes of SWIC Public Community Safety Forum

St. Catherines N.S, Donore Ave, 7.00pm 10/10/2024

Chair Evan Moore

Present Superintendent Dave Butler (Kevin St), Inspector Ian Lambe (Kilmainham), Linda Fanning (DCC), Frank Murphy (DCC).

In attendance Cllr Maire Devine, Cllr Ammar Ali, Senator Catherine Ardagh.

Minutes-Deirdre Smyth (dsccsfcoordinator@gmail.com)

Welcome & introduction to the meeting - Facilitator, Ali Warner.

Ali welcomes the group provides a background of the community Safety Forum Public Meetings which are a platform for the all members of the community to have their voices heard with regards to matters relating to crime, safety and improvement of quality of life in their community. These meeting to focus on anti-social behaviour.

Opening remarks & update from June public meeting - SWIC CSF Chair, Evan Moore- explains that the current structure is transitioning to the Local Community Safety Partnerships which should be in place early next year and the importance of issues around community safety and anti-social behaviour being brought to these meetings.

Feedback from issues that were raised at SWIC public meeting 6th June 2024

Linda Fanning /Frank Murphy DCC South Central Area Housing Managers

- **Drug dealing in Linear and Herberton park-** DCC have met with Transport for Ireland, Gardaí and public domain and they are in the middle of carrying out a lighting survey in these areas.
- **Herberton-,issue with on official access** DCC are improving the locking system there.
- **Saint Teresa's gardens-** security has been placed there and complaints have gone down, hoarding is currently been erected around the area.
- **Dangerous dogs-** education pieces have been carried out, fines have been handed out and days of operations have seized dogs.

Superintendent David Butler, Kevin St/Kilmainham, Inspector Ian Lambe Kilmainham

- **Animal welfare**- dogs and horses have been seized in the area, 4 horses have been seized.
- **Days of action** have been undertaken around the transport safety, working with Transport for Ireland and DCC on this.
- **DRI (drug related intimidation) leaflets** have been handed out to 391 homes in the Oliver Bond area and have had a good reaction to this, will look into doing leaflet drops in other areas.
- Gardaí were involved in the Liam Hicks soccer tournament.
- Gardaí were involved in The Liberties Festival.
- **Seizures up to date from January to October** there has been 1.4 million in drugs captured, there was a significant find of €275,000 in Meath Place and €280,000 in Whitefriar St.
- **High visibility patrols are continuing**
- **AGS are gaining 6 new Gardaí**, 5 will be go to Kilmainham and 1 will be based in Kevin St.
- **5 additional Gardaí will be going into community policing.**
- **Operation Trombola** is in place for Halloween not only for the night but also the time leading up to it.

Issues raised at the tables by participants

- With the time gap and the change location of this public meeting, feel that there are people from Thomas St who can't be in the room not getting the feedback from DCC and AGS from the last meeting.
- Proposal of a survey to be sent out prior to meetings for residents to fill in, especially if they can't attend the meeting.
- There's a good relationship with the Gardaí, but with transitions within in the Gardaí it's so hard to keep the positive relationship going.
- Open drug use all around the SWIC area especially Oliver Bond Street.
- Need more community spaces which pro social activities and space for young people the lack of community spaces for young people opening itself to ASB.
- Issues with E scooters/E-bikes both commercial and private, no lights on them, they break traffic lights, what are the laws that surround them?
- Gate for Oscar Square is welded open; this is bringing security concerns.
- Concerns around DCC premises ran by Peter McVerry that residents are not adhering to the rules, and its intimidating for other residents in the community.
- Little Garda visibility on South Circular Rd, residents feel they're losing out to areas where more crime is being committed.
- Could provide a list of new community officers in the area? What is the definition of community policing?
- Issue with delivery drivers selling drugs
- Increase in ASB in Pimlico and Tenters, there is a lack of facilities and green space and overcrowding of housing.
- Donore Community Centre going to take 5 years for it to be rebuilt, this is too long for community to wait.

- Pimlico around 50 young people gathered outside the chipper aged 12 to 14 and then young people aged 15+ are being groomed, DCC need to look at tenancies of those involved in ASB, and planning enforcement for the times that establishments can be opened.
- More funding for Youth outreach work needs to be allocated, they could diffuse certain situations quicker than Gardaí.
- Provide opportunities of apprenticeships and to the young people in the area.
- Issues with locks on gates that Herberton was raised in June, and there are still issues there.
- Antisocial behaviour is still high in Weaver Park
- Lack of mental health supports for young people, high rates of suicides.
- Give opportunities for community groups and garda diversion workers to do training with new Garda recruits.
- A volunteer spent evenings planting with young people around the 'Tree of Hope' during the summer and DCC dug up their planting.
- Dun Laoghaire have a playground for teens, could this be looked at in our area?
- Needs it replicates the NEIC 0.5% of the budget was given to libraries, social areas recreation space in the SWIC need relieve situations 5% should go to outreach. Marrowbone Lane pitch needs to be delivered in 18 months.
- Issues around fireworks being aimed at cars and people.
- More public bins around Meath St, bin day collection needs to be looked at around Halloween.
- Intimidation by groups in Bridgefoot St.
- Concerns around MQI centre.
- Compared to the urban regeneration around Meath St. there is billionaire funds involved in this there needs to be a community space in the planning requirements.
- DCC used to report updates on Halloween on Twitter they seem to have stopped doing that
- Want Richard Shakespeare and David Dennigan to be invited to the next public meeting.

Responses

Leanne Lowry from Solas states that there was a big crowd age of around 50 young people standing outside the chipper at Pimlico, this needs to be separated from ASB. They were brought back to a Solas facility but they didn't have the capacity for all the young people there. States there is only 5 youth workers with around 3,000 young people in the area

Responses DCC

- In regards to feedback from Public meetings- A lot of responses are given on the night of the Public meetings.
- Linda Fanning will get information after the meeting and follow up on the gates and Oscar Square and the Peter Mc Verry complex.
- If there are any issues you want to raise, e-mail Linda Fanning or Frank Murphy. Eblana House public office in Marrowbone Lane is open from 9:00 to 5:00 Monday to Friday.
- Will take the issues around sporting facilities back to Bruce Phillips and Stephen Coyne.

Responses – Chair

- SWIC is a large area and we have to hear different community experiences, that is why meetings moved between Basin St, St. Catherines, these meetings are all advertised.
- Minutes of all meetings are shared on the DSC forums website, information on this website is given at every public meeting.
- There will be a report of the minutes of this meeting that report goes to JPC all issues that are raised are brought to the JPC they're not technically part to the Safety Bill but they're still brought up.
- After this meeting the community should get reps together and form a steering group for community space.
- People need to be writing to their local representatives on timeframes for community spaces.
- With ASB, parents and guardians have a big part to play in this as the complex situation.
- The Area Committee meeting is held will be held on the 16th of October anyone can log into this and see what is happening in their area.
- Will e-mail the Director of Services and other DCC reps to attend the next public meeting, but they mightn't be in a position to attend.

AGS Feedback

- Gardaí have seized many E scooters both private and commercial vehicles.
- Merchants Quay- stakeholders are working closely together on this matter, policing will not change and everyone is mindful of the residents living in the area.
- Community policing is about engaging with the community and building up relationships
- Bridgefoot St. Park- Operation Trombola has started.
- In regards to stockpiling of pallets, we are working with DCC on this issue and engaging with private bin companies.
- AGS have increased patrols and community policing around the Pimlico chipper.

Senator Catherine Ardagh reads an update from Donor Ave community space from the Minister. Plans had to be amended to allow for disability access/ plans made available Q 4/24 and contractor in Q 1/2025.

- Notes concerns over ASB, says that the Task Force that's over in the Northside needs to be replicated here.

CONTACT INFORMATION

AGS

E-MAIL: DMRSouthCentral.Community@garda.ie

GARDA CONFIDENTIAL LINE: 1800-666-111 / GARDA EMERGENCY: 999/112

DCC

E-MAIL:

Linda Fanning linda.fanning@dublincity.ie

Frank Murphy frank.murphy@dublincity.ie

Minutes of all Dublin South Central Forum meetings

Including SWIC public community safety meetings at <https://dscforums.ie/>