

Minutes

Meeting Community Liaison Committee

Date-Time-Location 24th February 2021 at 5pm via Microsoft Teams

Members present Jason Aughney (JA); Shane Boyne (SB); Cllr Joe Costello (JC); Louise

Keegan (LK); Garda Stephen Lacey (GSL); Kathleen McCann (KMcC); Fionnuala McHugh (FMcH); Luke McManus (LMcM), Tara Mulvany (TM):

Neil O'Riordan (NoR); Kevin Sheridan (KS); Roisin Cahill(RC).

By invitation Maire Mellerick (MM); Paul Horan (PH)

Apologies Cllr Janice Boylan, Cllr Anthony Flynn, Eugene Kelly, Dave Kilmartin

Item Action Date

Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

1.1. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

1.2. Matters Arising

TM noted the following:

- General standards of behaviour to be reinforced at contractors' *Tool Talks* on an ongoing basis following issues raised by LMcM at previous meeting.
- An ongoing forum for communication with local resident reps had been set up with GDA and construction contractor for D7ETNS.
- GDA Good Neighbour Charter had been reviewed and updated.
- LMcM comments re green space to side of Park House had been raised with TU Dublin for consideration.
- No further update on student accommodation on campus financial model still in early stages of review.
- MM was present at meeting to discuss Toucan crossings and filtered permeability measures on GG Lwr.
- GSL also present to discuss concerns around anti-social behaviour and criminal activity in the general area.

2. **Project Update**

2.1. TM provided the following update:

- LVL 5 restrictions remain until April continue to impact construction works deemed non-essential. These include Clock Tower, Print Making Workshop, Field Sports Changing Facilities and TII works on Broadstone Plaza.
- Construction works on D7ETNS progressing well. Piling commenced on-site and will take approx. 3 weeks to complete. Project co-ordinator presenting to school to mark Engineers Week.



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- Lower House & East Quad occupied by TU Dublin. Major construction works now complete. Spring edition of GDA newsletter to focus on Lower House recovery.
- Majority of students still remote learning.
- Central Quad aiming for completion of works by end March.
- Academic Hub & Library tenders for construction being evaluated. Likely start date early summer.

GLLF

- 3.1. KMcC provided the following update:
 - Employment figures for Dec were 5% and Jan 4%.
 - Sisk and Purcells winding down due to completion of EQ and Lower House. D7ETNS construction contractors starting up.
 - Next opportunity for employment is Academic Hub & Library.
 - Sodexo starting to recruit in Central Quad for approx. 40-50 roles such as cleaners, care takers and security. Opportunities for electricians and mechanical engineers will come at later date.
 - KMcC working with INTREO and LEOs to develop recruitment video in lieu of *Meet the Contractor* event.
 - Funding has been approved from Tusla for ABC programme.

4. Community Matters

- 4.1. Discussion with Community Garda
- 4.2. TM introduced GSL and noted that the Group was trying to get picture of situation from Gardaí perspective i.e. what is being reported in context of wider city and how we can look at actions collectively.

GSL noted increase in calls to Gardaí (including Grangegorman & Rathdown Road areas) related to teenagers (13-16 year olds). He confirmed that two special units had been established solely to deal with knife crime among teens in the Nth Inner City in addition to the Public Order Units. He noted that Covid-19 had restricted Garda community engagement with youths.

He said it is imperative that all incidents, no matter how small, are reported to Gardai immediately as the longer the time between reporting, the harder it is to identify individuals involved.

LMcM questioned whether campus security could be more active. PH noted that security on campus was a finite resource. There were two campus security guards paid for by TU Dublin covering an area of over 60 acres and they are doing the best they can.



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GL confirmed CCTV on campus was of a very high quality and Gardaí have strong possibility of identifying suspects due to the quality of the footage once it's reported.

SB noted that a strategic approach to the issue was needed. He informed the group of an opportunity for individuals and business representatives from the local community to be represented on the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) and encouraged members to consider participation. He also noted that the more incidents are reported, the more resources can be allocated to the area and made the link between the current pandemic and the lack of areas available for youth recreation.

JC reiterated SB's point regarding the JPC and said that the Department of Justice had piloted a community policing project in the North Inner City. He also noted that schools, youth groups and sports clubs have all stopped due to the current restrictions – so youths are hanging around idly. He said that various voluntary groups could engage some of these young people. He also suggested the use of WhatsApp to keep neighbourhoods informed

MM noted that there is also security on each of the construction sites. She said there is a collective ownership of Grangegorman and that anti-social behaviour in the area is not the sole responsibility of TU Dublin and campus or site security. She said that site security is advised to get in touch with the Gardaí when incidents occur and that the community also have a responsibility to report issues.

PH noted that security have no legal authority when it comes to policing matters and that they are instructed to look after their own safety first.

LMcM noted that security guards on campus have a certain responsibility to disperse large groups – whether they be teenagers or groups breaking Covid guidelines. He requested that security warn such groups they are being recorded on CCTV. TM added that there would be additional safety concerns for security guards approaching large groups due to Covid-19.

LMcM also noted issues with regard to lighting on the campus.

GSL confirmed that he is in contact with GEM on a regular basis – 3-4 times per week. There are also proactive Gardaí patrols 3-4 times per day. Gardaí have specialised training in dealing with groups of youths and these groups have a different view of the Gardaí versus dealing with security guards.

SB also made a suggestion for the Garda mounted unit to extend their patrol to GG which would have benefits wider than security.



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PH agreed that additional patrols, whether mounted, on foot, bike or car would be welcome. GSL said that he would look into this. TM summarised key actions arising from the discussion as follows:

- Incidents should be reported by community immediately to the Gardaí. The numbers to call are: The Bridewell at (01) 666 8200 or Store St District Call Centre at (01) 666 8000
- Campus security need to increase reporting of incidents to Gardaí no matter how small
- Opportunity for community involvement on the Joint Policing Committee
- · Lighting on campus needs to be looked at
- More Garda patrols welcome in the area whether mounted, by foot, or car.
- GL will attend another meeting of the CLC to update and reassess situation

4.3. Filtered Permeability Measures

4.4. MM noted DCC decision to make filtered permeability measures at Grangegorman permanent for at least a year. Works on the Toucan crossings are continuing because they have long term value and add to route from East to West. Workshop of the GAWG was held to discuss technical issues around the works and the permeability measures. Decision was taken to revise the plans for the paving and markings in the area in order to address issues such as parking in the area of the Bring Centre and replacing the planters with ground planted trees. She said DCC were looking into this with the aim of creating a paved square or plaza area in between the toucan crossings and are drawing up proposals which should be complete within 3 weeks.

JC welcomed this approach and reiterated issues around parking at the Bring Centre. He also noted his preference for ground planted trees in the area instead of planters.

MM clarified that DCC was carrying out the works and that they were being funded through NTA.

5. **AOB and next meeting**

- 6.1. TM informed the Group that MM was due to retire from the GDA and thanked her for her commitment to the project on behalf of the Agency and the CLC. FMcH reiterated these comments on behalf of D7ETNS.
- 6.2. The next meeting of the CLC will take place on 21st April 2021 at 5pm online via MS Teams.