**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS**

**SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**RATHFARNHAM/TEMPLEOGUE-TERENURE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes of Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee Meeting, dealing with Planning, Transportation, Economic Development, Libraries & Arts, Corporate Support, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Water & Drainage, Housing and Community held on 11th November 2014.**

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| **PRESENT** |
| **COUNCILLORS** |
| C. Brophy |
| A. M. Dermody |
| P. Donovan |
| F. Duffy |
| P. Foley |
| S. Holland |
| P. Kearns |
| J. Lahart |
| D. Looney |
| R. McMahon |
| D. O’Donovan |
| F. Warfield |

An Cathaoirleach Councillor P. Kearns presided.

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Senior Executive Officer | P. Murphy, H. Hogan. |
| Senior Engineer | J. McLoughlin, L. Magee. |
| Senior Planner | N. O’Byrne. |
| Senior Executive Parks Superintendent | M. Hannon, M. Keenan. |
| Senior Executive Librarian | D. Fagan. |
| Public Realm Designer | S. Furlong. |
| Administrative Officer | T. Curtin. |
| A/Senior Staff Officer | C. Malone. |
| Clerical Officer | A. Mooney. |

**RTT/167/14 CONFIRMATION AND RE-AFFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**HEADED ITEM (1): Item ID: 41270**

Minutes of Rathfarnham/Templeogue-Terenure Area Committee Meeting, dealing with Community, Housing, Transportation, Planning, Libraries & Arts, Economic Development, Performance and Change Management, Corporate Support, Water & Drainage and Public Realm,held on 14th October 2014, which had been circulated, were submitted and **APPROVED** as a true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor D. Looney, seconded by Councillor J. Lahart and **RESOLVED:**

“That the recommendations contained in the Minutes of the 14th October 2014 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**Planning**

**RTT/168/14 QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Donovan and **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No.13, Question 1 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTT/169/14 PROVISION OF SCHOOLS IN FIRHOUSE**

**QUESTION (1): Councillor D. Looney Item ID: 41250**

"To ask the Chief Executive for an update on the provision of schools in the Firhouse area, providing details on meetings which have taken place, contacts made and any work which has been carried out since the beginning of September, and to make a statement on the matter?"

**REPLY:**

Sites for two new primary schools are urgently required in Firhouse to provide permanent accommodation for schools in temporary accommodation. A S.183 disposal of a site at the junction of the Firhouse Rd./ Killinniny Road to the Department of Education and Skills (DES) which could accommodate one 16 classroom school, subject to planning permission, was deferred at the September Council meeting.

Subsequently the Planning Department and the DES met with representatives of national patrons and local management for both schools and outlined the work to date in trying to establish permanent sites for both schools. A report outlining the site identification and acquisition process for the new schools in Firhouse was finalised (see attached) and the Planning Department briefed representatives of the Community Centre, the Football Club and Elected Members at separate consecutive meetings on Tuesday 4th November.

[Firhouse School Site Identification Final Report](http://intranet/cmas/documents/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-Terenure%20Area%20Committee/2014/November/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-TerenureACM11thNovember2014/41250_Firhouse%20School%20Site%20Selection%20Process%20Final%20Report.pdf)

**RTT/170/14 PLANNING FILES**

**HEADED ITEM (2): Planning Item ID: 41279**

A. Large Applications Under Consideration

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **SD14A/0222** | 14-Oct-2014 **Applicant’s Name:** Deane Homes Ltd. **Submission Type:** New Application | **Location:** Lands at Stocking Vale, Stocking Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16 **Proposed Development:** Application for a 10 year permission for the construction of 164 houses, 8 apartments and 1 crèche (total of 172 dwelling units). The houses will consist of 2 no. 5 bed 2 storey and attic level detached houses; 6 no. 5 bed 2 storey and attic level semi detached houses; 70 no. 4 bed 2 storey end of terrace houses; 1 no. 4 bed 2 storey detached house; 6 no. 4 bed 2 storey and attic level semi detached houses; 79 no. 3 bed 2 storey mid terrace houses. A 5 storey detached block will contain the crèche at ground floor (364.8sq.m and 8 no. 2 bed apartments over consisting of 2 no. apartments at first floor, second floor, third floor and fourth floor levels); all associated site development works all on part of lands approved as 'Stocking Vale' (part Precinct 4 and Precinct 5) under An Bord Pleanala Ref. PL06S.212191, South Dublin County Council Reg. Ref. SD04A/0393) with access from approved and constructed entrance off Stocking Avenue. **Decision Due on or before:** 08-Dec-2014 |

This planning application was **NOTED.**

B. Files Requested by Members

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/171/14 INSTALLATION OF CYCLE TRACK FROM SCHOLARSTOWN ROUNDABOUT TO ST. COLMCILLES NATIONAL SCHOOL**

**HEADED ITEM (3): Planning Department Item ID: 41332**

Ms. S. Furlong, Public Realm Designer, presented the following report:

**“Installation of Cycle Track from Scholarstown Roundabout to St. Colmcilles National School.**

“There is currently no funding allocated to construction of cycle tracks on Scholarstown Road.

In order to obtain funding South Dublin County Council have carried out the following actions:

A case was made to the National Transport Authority regarding the schools need for cycle facilities during the summer months.

The National Transport Authority agreed to extend funding and South Dublin County Council have commissioned consulting engineers to examine and design as required, the provision of cycling facilities north and south from Knocklyon Road from Orlagh Roundabout to the school.

The funding covers topographical survey, slit trenches (which are currently underway) and detailed design. It is envisaged that the Stage 1 and 2 (preliminary and detailed design) of the cycling facilities will be complete by year end.

Once the detailed design is completed a further application for funding to the National Transport Authority will be made for tender and construction phases.”

The report was **NOTED.**

**RTT/172/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (4): Planning Item ID: 41280**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/173/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (1): Planning Item ID: 41281**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Transportation**

**RTT/174/14 QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Donovan **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No.13, Questions 2 - 6 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTT/175/14 REPAIR OF PATHS IN WOODSTOWN VILLAGE**

**QUESTION (2): Councillor A-M. Dermody Item ID: 41254**

"To ask the Chief Executive to please arrange for an inspection of the paths in Woodstown Village, noting in particular the path outside No. 2 Woodstown Walk (a full list of problem paths will follow which will highlight the worst paths in the estate). Once it is confirmed that these paths need repairing please confirm when residents can expect this work to be undertaken and completed?"

**REPLY:**

The location listed will be inspected and any necessary emergency repairs will be carried out as soon as possible. A general inspection of the Woodstown Estate paths will be carried out and if warranted, the area will be listed for inclusion in the 2015 footpath repair programme. The amount of footpath repair work that can be carried out depends on the budget allocated for footpaths in 2015.

**RTT/176/14 REPAIR OF ROADS AND PATHS ON WILLBROOK ROAD**

**QUESTION (3): Councillor A-M. Dermody Item ID: 41322**

"To ask the Chief Executive to inspect the roads and paths on Willbrook Road and to report back as to the general condition of both. The cycle-lane heading in the direction of Ballyboden Road is particularly bad and represents to me a potential danger, the surface has cracked leaving a gap large enough to entrap the wheel of a bike.

What looks like a temporary surface on the paths has, overtime through natural wear and tear, eroded leaving the paths as a likely tripping hazzard in some areas.

Can you please confirm what percentage of next years budget has been set aside for paths and road maintenance? Once again people are demanding value for their property tax.

Finally, and in anticipation of a certain reply, can you please provide a timeline within which it is envisaged such works will be done?"

**REPLY:**

The Road surface, paths and cyclepaths on Willbrook Road have been inspected and will be considered for inclusion in the 2015 Roadworks programme for repair. The budget for road and footpath repair is decided by the elected members.

It is not possible to be specific in relation to a timeframe for the works as the 2015 Roadworks programme is currently in the process of being drafted.

**RTT/177/14 LIGHTING ON THE WHITECHURCH ROAD**

**QUESTION (4): Councillor S. Holland Item ID: 41258**

"To ask the Chief Executive to inspect the Lighting on the Whitechurch Road. The Street lighting is sparse and the darker nights leave the road dark, spooky and deserted.

Is there any scope for adding extra street lighting - especially in the areas where the footpath veers away from the road and is hidden in behind bushes?"

**REPLY:**

The street lighting on Whitechurch Road is mounted on the ESB Distribution Network. These poles are due for an upgrade in the short to medium term under the ESB's LVU programme. Once these works have been completed, we will upgrade the public lighting accordingly.

**RTT/178/14 UPDATE ON PROJECTS - (1) the Walkinstown Roundabout Study, (2) the Whitehall-Wellington cycle scheme(3) the Tallaght-Ballyboden cycle scheme**

**QUESTION (5): Councillor D. Looney Item ID: 41249**

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the following projects; (1) the Walkinstown Roundabout Study, (2) the Whitehall-Wellington cycle scheme including surfacing and other works at Perrystown, (3) the Tallaght-Ballyboden cycle scheme?"

**REPLY:**

In reply to item (1) Walkinstown Roundabout Study, the data collection required to plan the required trial traffic management system is still being collated and will then be presented to the NTA for consideration. Video surveys have been completed and analysed and final designs for the traffic management will be completed in the next month.

(2) Whitehall- Wellington cycle scheme: SDCC have resubmitted the scheme for approval for 2015 funding but there is no indication as yet that such funding will be available.

(3) Tallaght - Ballyboden Cycle scheme:

Phase 1 of the project, the toucan crossings along its length were installed last year.

Phase 2 of the project, the pedestrian and cycle route and bridges through Dodder Valley Park, Old Bawn are on site and nearing completion. The route will be open next week.

Phase 3 Firhouse to Knocklyon is at detailed design stage and a funding application has been made to the National Transport Authority for continuation of the project in 2015.

The members will be kept informed of progress.

**RTT/179/14 STEPS AT CHURCH VIEW, RATHFARNHAM**

**QUESTION (6): Councillor D. O'Donovan Item ID: 41265**

"To ask the Chief Executive to construct suitable steps at Church View, Rathfarnham as a matter of urgency. The current steps are much too high and steep, making it impossible for elderly residents to use this access path across from Bushy Park, especially in icy conditions?"

**REPLY:**

The existing access consists of a ramp and any replacement will have to allow for buggies etc. The area will be included as part of a footpath/cycletrack that is currently being considered for the area.

**RTT/180/14 PROPOSED DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS**

**HEADED ITEM (5): Transportation Item ID: 41276**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/181/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (6): Transportation Item ID: 41277**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/182/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (2): Transportation Item ID: 41278**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/183/14 FUNDING OF SCHOOL BIKE SCHEME**

**MOTION (1): Item ID: 41251**

It was proposed by Councillor A-M. Dermody, seconded by Councillor C. Brophy:-

"That the Chief Executive explore the idea of funding a school bike scheme, not unlike the National bike to work scheme which has been a huge success for both citizens and bike shop proprietors. The proprietors of such shops tend to be small businesses operating in the villages throughout our county. In recognition of the part played by these small businesses, who in turn make up a large share of the commercial rate payers, is it possible to set up a schools “bike to school” scheme throughout the County. Such an incentive would follow on from the Council’s “Safe Cycle Programme” and would serve to elevate some of the traffic congestion around our schools. If an affirmative response is provided at this meeting I will take a separate motion to the next Council meeting."

The following report by the Chief Executive was **READ:**

“The Chief Executive in his introductory report to the Budget 2015 has outlined the Councils intention to introduce an initiative to pilot a 'Bike to School Scheme'. It is intended that the Council will seek to partner with a number of schools throughout the County with a view to increasing cycling as a means of travel to school. It is not intended to fund bicycles as part of this pilot. It will build on our Safe Cycle Programme and encourage the increased use of the growing infrastructure of cycleways /lanes and permeability routes now in place. The involvement of shop proprietors in the provision of safety equipment and clothing can also be considered as part of the initiative.”

Following a contribution from Councillor A.M. Dermody the report was **NOTED.**

**RTT/184/14 PROVISION OF METAL PALISADE FENCE AT ENTRANCE OFF ST. COLMCILLES WAY**

**MOTION (2): Item ID: 41264**

It was proposed by Councillor D. O'Donovan, seconded by Councillor J. Lahart:-

"That the Chief Executive moves immediately to erect metal palisade fence at the entrance off St Colmcilles Way and that additional fencing be placed along the entire wall so as to deny access from the M50 off ramp at Knocklyon. The area runs parallel to Orlagh Park, and is located behind the timber fencing and between the Orlagh Park/ Beverly Estate Wall. The area can be easily accessed from St Colmcilles Way or if you walk down the M50 off ramp at the south bound exit this area can be similarly accessed. A hut had been constructed in the area and is ideally suited for anyone who wishes to engage in any criminal behaviour and Gardai have found evidence of drug use in the area. This also needs to be removed as a matter of urgency."

The following report by the Chief Executive was **READ:**

“The maintenance repair and upkeep of the boundary treatment at this location is a matter for the National Roads Authority. Should the Motion be passed the matter will be referred to the National Roads Authority and when a response is received the Members will be notified.”

Following contributions from Councillors D. O’Donovan and J. Lahart, Mr. J. McLoughlin, Senior Engineer, responded to queries raised. It was **AGREED** to arrange for a noise barrier fence on St. Colmcille’s Way to be tied into the boundary fence at Beverly to close off unauthorised access at this location.

**Economic Development**

**RTT/185/14 QUESTIONS**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/186/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (7): Economic Development Item ID: 41286**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/187/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (3): Economic Development Item ID: 41287**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Libraries & Arts**

**RTT/188/14 QUESTIONS**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/189/14 APPLICATION FOR ARTS GRANTS**

**HEADED ITEM (8): Libraries & Arts Item ID: 41282**

Ms. D. Fagan, Senior Executive Librarian, presented the following report:

“Applications for Arts Grants under Section 6 of the Arts Act 2003, has been received from the organisations listed below. Payment of these grants, in accordance with the conditions of the Scheme and in the amount set out hereunder, is recommended for approval:-

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ref: | Name of Group | Type of Application - Grant | Date Received | Amount € |
| AGF820 | The WEB Project | Grant for setting up a music club | 20/10/2014 | 650 |
| Agf822 | Jubilate Choir | Grant – subsidy for choral event in St Pius X Church | 31/10/2014 | 650 |

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, seconded by Councillor A.M. Dermody and **RESOLVED:**

“that this Committee recommends that South Dublin County Council **APPROVE** the grants as recommended in the foregoing report.”

**RTT/190/14 LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS**

**HEADED ITEM (9): Libraries & Arts Item ID: 41283**

Ms. D. Fagan, Senior Executive Librarian, presented the following report:

[Library News & Events](http://intranet/cmas/documents/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-Terenure%20Area%20Committee/2014/November/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-TerenureACM11thNovember2014/41283_HI%209%20Library%20News%20&%20Events.doc)

Following contributions from Councillors P. Kearns and S. Holland, Ms Fagan responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

**RTT/191/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (10): Libraries & Arts Item ID: 41284**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/192/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (4): Libraries & Arts Item ID: 41285**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Corporate Support**

**RTT/193/14 QUESTIONS**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/194/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (11): Corporate Support Item ID: 41290**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/195/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (5): Corporate Support Item ID: 41291**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Performance & Change Management**

**RTT/196/14 QUESTIONS**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/197/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (12): Performance & Change Management Item ID: 41288**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/198/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (6): Performance & Change Management Item ID: 41289**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Public Realm**

**RTT/199/14 QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Donovan **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No.13, Questions 7 - 16 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTT/200/14 INSPECTION OF PATHS AND TREES IN BODEN PARK**

**QUESTION (7): Councillor A-M. Dermody Item ID: 41253**

"To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for an inspection of the paths and trees in Boden Park. Please cross reference with the current Arboricultural Programme 2014 and confirm which trees ought to be pruned or removed and a likely date for such works to be completed by.

A lot of the trees are over-grown now in the Estate and are in serious need of pruning. The trees are blocking light at night time and they are also obstructing pathways and are damaging cars with sap falling onto cars parked underneath.

Residents were assured that ALL trees in the Estate would be pruned earlier in 2014, however this never happened. Please at the same time inspect the paths throughout the estate and provide a time frame for including all such works on the Paths Programme.

**REPLY:**

Boden Park was scheduled on the Arboricultural Programme for 2014 but regrettably was not completed due to the redeployment of staff and resources to deal with emergency tree maintenance arising from storms at the start of the year.

A joint inspection of the trees and pedestrian paths within Boden Park estate has been undertaken by staff from the Council’s Public Realm and Roads Maintenance sections and a number of trees have been identified for removal to facilitate the repair of the pedestrian paths.

Boden Park estate is listed on the Tree Maintenance Programme for Winter 2014 / Spring 2015 and it is planned to undertake tree maintenance on all trees within the estate where works are considered necessary. This work is scheduled for completion in the early part of 2015.

The priority for the Winter 2014 / Spring 2015 programme is to complete outstanding works from the 2014 programme which includes Boden Park.

**RTT/201/14 JAPANESE KNOTWEED**

**QUESTION (8): Councillor S. Holland Item ID: 41256**

"Japanese Knotweed - I know of one property affected by this insidious plant and once it gets into drains or under walls, it can damage foundations & drainage systems and cost thousands to rectify.

Can we identify areas where this waterside plant is prevalent and initiate a strategy for the elimination of it?

It has been proven to decrease property values and could result in costs for SDCC.

The case I reported off the Whitechurch Road was ineffectively dealt with by SDCC - spreading weedkiller half heartedly does nothing?"

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council commenced pilot trials during 2014 in five locations around the County to establish the best means for eradication of Japanese Knotweed. These trials are ongoing and are being conducted across the County in Rathfarnham, Palmerston, Lucan and Clondalkin. The results of the trials will be assessed in 2015 to determine their effectiveness and establish if re-growth has occurred. A further report can be made available on the matter once the assessment of trials has been carried out. It should also be noted that the Council will soon embark on the process to prepare a biodiversity plan for the County which will entail as a key objective the development of a strategy for dealing with invasive species including Japanese Knotweed. The Council's Heritage Officer will be reporting to Area Committee meetings on this matter in the new year.

**RTT/202/14 LEAF CLEARING ON THE WHITECHURCH ROAD**

**QUESTION (9): Councillor S. Holland Item ID: 41257**

"To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for leaf clearing on the Whitechurch Road. The footpaths are swamped with leaves, please advise when these will be cleared?"

**REPLY:**

The Council's road sweeping contractor has been asked to schedule the sweeping of leaves from the road and footpath along Whitechurch Road. The work in question is scheduled to be carried out before the end of the current week, Friday November 14th.

**RTT/203/14 PRUNING AND REMOVAL OF TREES**

**QUESTION (10): Councillor D. Looney Item ID: 41243**

"To ask the Chief Executive to arrange for a programme of appropriate pruning and removal of any trees, bushes or other plants adjacent to the River Poddle between Tymon Park and the boundary with the City Council area which may contribute to flooding in terms of blockages and other impacts on the river flow and drainage?"

**REPLY:**

The Council's Drainage Maintenance Section carried out extensive works during the course of 2012 to identify and remove all trees, bushes and other growth that was causing blockages in the Poddle River at that time. A programme of works was implemented following these surveys and completed at an approximate cost of €50,000 in 2012. The matter has now been raised with the Drainage Maintenance Section and they have undertaken to survey the river again to identify any current issues that may exist. A programme of works will be prepared to address any issues that are identified by the river survey.

**RTT/204/14 WORKS ADJACENT TO WESTBOURNE LODGE**

**QUESTION (11): Councillor D. Looney Item ID: 41244**

"To ask the Chief Executive to clarify any works which have taken place adjacent to Westbourne Lodge, Dublin 16 and what future works are planned at the site in respect of the adjoining GAA grounds, and to make a statement on the matter?"

**REPLY:**

No recent works have taken place on the open space adjacent to Westbourne Lodge. Ballyboden GAA club have made representations in regard to a possible small realignment of the boundary between the open space and the club grounds in order to provide a longer pitch dimension that is fully fit for purpose. No agreements have been entered into and if any disposal was to be considered it would have to be agreed with the Elected Members. The impact of such a proposal on the open space has to be determined and the Council has requested the club to provide such details for consideration.

**RTT/205/14 GREEN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME**

**QUESTION (12): Councillor D. Looney Item ID: 41245**

"To ask the Chief Executive how many (a) primary schools and (b) post-primary schools in the area under the remit of this Committee have taken part in the Green Schools programme; how many flags have each school been awarded; how many schools in this area have yet to sign up to the Green Schools programme; and what plans are underway to further increase participation in this area?"

**REPLY:**

The Green Schools programme is an international environmental programme targeting schools under the following themes - Litter and Waste, Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity and Climate Change. The programme is co-ordinated by an Taisce and implemented by Council staff. The programme is promoted on an on-going basis in all schools through out the County, including this area in the following ways.

Each year a Green Schools seminar is held to assist teachers involved in the programme. A newsletter is issued twice a year to all schools setting out all promotions and events planned [**http://www.sdcc.ie/green-times-newsletter-2014-vol-12**](http://www.sdcc.ie/green-times-newsletter-2014-vol-12). The Council holds many competitions for schools through out the year e.g. Christmas recycled decorations, anti-litter poster, stop food waste recipe, podcast on an environmental theme. Further support is provided to school through talks, school visits, the supply of workshops and environmental games, all to help towards becoming more environmentally aware and achieving their next green flag. More than 160 workshops took place in schools last year. Every school in the County is contacted regarding the schools newsletters, seminars, workshops, competitions.

Assessments are carried out at schools that have applied for a green flag. This year a total of 37 flags were assessed and awarded in the county. Attendance at schools Green flag raising ceremonies by Council staff and the Mayor encourages further participation in the programme. This is followed up by a press release and image to the local media regarding the schools wonderful achievement.

The attached table lists the number of schools in the area partaking in the programme. This year St Peters BNS was awarded the **National** **Water Award** for their application by Irish Water.

[Green Schools Programme Table](http://intranet/cmas/documents/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-Terenure%20Area%20Committee/2014/November/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-TerenureACM11thNovember2014/41245_Item%2041245%20Green%20Schools%20programme.xls)

**RTT/206/14 CUT BACK OVERGROWTH SURROUNDING THE BRIDGE BETWEEN BALLYBODEN ROAD & WILLBROOK DRIVE**

**QUESTION (13): Councillor D. O'Donovan Item ID: 41267**

"To ask the Chief Executive to have the area surrounding the bridge between Ballyboden Road & Willbrook Drive cut back as a matter of urgency. The area is very overgrown with trees and shrubs and local residents are concerned about people not being able to use it in its current state?"

**REPLY:**

The area in question will be cut back by staff from the Public Realm maintenance section in the coming two weeks approximately.

**RTT/207/14 STONE MARKERS FOR BALLYROAN**

**QUESTION (14): Councillor D. O'Donovan Item ID: 41268**

"To ask the Chief Executive to have stone markers with the words, ´Ballyroan´ to be placed on the top and bottom of the Marian Road, with stone supplied by SDCC, but agreed by the Butterfield & District Residents Association?"

**REPLY:**

The Council will liaise with the Butterfield and District Residents Association on this proposal. It should be noted that all Namestones must have the wording in Irish on top and the English underneath.

**RTT/208/14 BIG BELLY BINS**

**QUESTION (15): Councillor F. Warfield Item ID: 40967**

"Given that Big Belly bins compaction capability means they can hold eight times more waste than our average street bin, will South Dublin County Council explore the potential installation of completely self-powered, big belly bins in Knocklyon and thus reduce the number of street bin collections by 86%?"

**REPLY:**

The Council trialled one of the Big Belly bins some years ago (in Tallaght beside the Square).

The cost at the time was in the region of €5,000 per unit.

There were issues in relation to managing the compacted weight of the waste and maintenance of the unit.

The Big Belly bin is an "intelligent" receptacle with technical components, and while the product claimed to be fireproof it was not found to be so at the time of trial, was heavily vandalised and ultimately had to be removed.

Consideration will be given to a new trial at a different location.

**RTT/209/14 BIO-DEGRADEABLE BAGS**

**QUESTION (16): Councillor F. Warfield Item ID: 40970**

"To ask the Chief Executive can an update be provided on the possible amendment of the Green Dog Walkers initiative to provide bio-degradable bags rather than plastic bags?"

**REPLY:**

The Green Dog Walkers initiative invites dog walkers to sign a pledge to clean up after their dog and to carry extra bags for other dog owners they meet who may have forgotten to bring a bag.

To promote this initiative, the Council provides a green doggy bone filled with bags on a 'once off' basis when signed pledges have been received. To date these bags have not been biodegradable.

However, recently South Dublin County Council suggested to the Environmental Awareness Officers regional network group that in future biodegradable bags should be supplied. This has been agreed and an order placed. Once current stocks of plastic bags have been depleted, biodegradable bags will then be distributed. It is important however to point out that regarding the disposal of dog waste it is 'Any Bag, Any Bin'

**RTT/210/14 TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME WINTER 2014 / SPRING 2015**

**HEADED ITEM (13): Public Realm Item ID: 41198**

Ms. M. Keenan, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, presented the following report:

[Tree Maintenance Programme Winter 2014 / Spring 2015](http://intranet/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=44752)

It was **AGREED** to take Motion 5 in the name of Councillor D. Looney in conjunction with the above.

**MOTION (5): 2014 ARBORICULTURAL PROGRAMME Item ID: 41246**

It was proposed by Councillor D. Looney, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns:-

"That this Committee calls on the Chief Executive to present a report on the carrying out of the current (2014) Arboricultural Programme, clarifying how many trees have been pruned or removed, and how many are left to be actioned, and stating when work on these trees will be carried out; and that this Committee calls for the prioritisation of this outstanding work along with further work in older estates and emergency requirements, including pruning, removal and replacement planting, in the upcoming Arboricultural Programme in consultation with public representatives."

The following report by the Chief Executive was **READ:**

“The Tree Maintenance Programme for 2014 commenced in January 2014 and is undertaken in two phases. Phase 1 was completed January 2014 to March 2014 and a progress report detailing trees pruned and removed during that period was presented to the Rathfarnham Area Committee on April 8th, 2014. The Tree Maintenance Programme for Winter 2014/ Spring 2015 is being undertaken from November 2014 to March 2015 and represents the completion of outstanding works from the 2014 Arboricultural Programme with the addition of commitments given high priority for action during 2014 and tree works committed for the early part of 2015. A full report detailing the Tree Maintenance Programme for Winter 2014/ Spring 2015 is presented as a headed item at this meeting.”

Following contributions from Councillors D. Looney, D. O’Donovan, P. Donovan, C. Brophy, A.M. Dermody, J. Lahart, S. Holland, P. Foley, R. McMahon, P. Kearns and F. Warfield, Ms Keenan and Mr. L. Magee, Senior Engineer, responded to queries raised. The reports were **NOTED** and it was **AGREED** to arrange an informal meeting through the Chair to progress the issue of tree management.

**RTT/211/14 DEVELOPMENT OF DODDER VALLEY PARK AND KENNEDY FIELD BETWEEN SPAWELL ROUNDABOUT & M50 FOR PLAYING PITCHES AND RUNNING TRACK.**

**HEADED ITEM (14): Public Realm Item ID: 41333**

Mr. M. Hannon, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, presented the following report:

**“Development of Dodder Valley Park and Kennedy Field between Spawell Roundabout & M50 for playing pitches and running track.**

“The Council manages its parks and open spaces to provide for a range of uses including, inter alia:

* Provision of play opportunities for active recreation (football of all codes, hurling, hockey, athletics, tennis, basketball, rounders, softball, to name but a few)
* Passive recreation (walking, sitting, bird watching, socialising, etc)
* Biodiversity protection
* Historical sites (tourism, history appreciation, etc)
* Climate Change mitigation (Flood control, carbon mitigation)

The land available for such uses is limited and in particular it is extremely limited in the Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Terenure Area Committee Area. There is a high demand for active recreation provision in terms of pitches and the Council has a difficulty in meeting that demand particularly in the last five years. The capacity of our Regional Parks is limited – in this Area Committee area the two Regional Parks (part of Tymon Park and Dodder Valley) are almost at capacity in terms of active recreation provision. Dodder Valley is a very narrow corridor of land with a relatively small area for active recreation. Providing active recreation opportunities in residential open space - in particular field sports – is problematic due to resistance from local communities arising from the impact of traffic to and from events, noise, lack of changing facilities, etc.

In the case of the clubs mentioned in this Motion and the needs of each for particular facilities the following is the situation:

**Bros Pearse Athletic Club** currently has a letting on a section of Cherryfield Park, Dodder Valley. It can use the wider Dodder Valley for long distance and endurance training. Track athletics is facilitated in a small 200m non standard area adjacent to the pitches let to Ballyboden St Endas GAA club. Bros Pearse have recently produced a Vision for the club that would mean that Ballyboden St Endas GAA would have to vacate two pitches at least to facilitate these plans.

**Ballyboden St Endas** – currently have pitches at Cherryfield Park, Dodder Valley and adjacent to Bros Pearse AC facilities – two at almost full size and two smaller pitches mostly used for Camogie training. The club is anxious to enhance 2 pitches in partnership with the Council but there is an obvious conflict with Bros Pearse AC in trying to achieve this.

**Knocklyon Utd** currently have pitches at

* Delaford (1)
* Castlefield (1 plus 1 temporary)
* Tymon Park (1)
* Kennedy’s Field (1 and have requested the provision of a second pitch at this location)

The club is anxious to consolidate it’s presence and to enhance it’s facilities by the construction of an all weather pitch – possibly at Delaford (this would require planning permission).

**Knocklyon Utd and Bros Pearse AC** recently met with the Council (separately) to discuss their long term plans and the issues that are pressing for the clubs and their membership.

A suggestion has been made at that meeting by Bros Pearse AC to move from Cherryfield Park to Kennedy’s Field and this would mean that Knocklyon Utd would have to move from that location. In turn, Knocklyon Utd have suggested moving from Kennedy’s Field to the undeveloped land at Mt Carmel, Dodder Valley. The club has requested 3 pitches at this location. The Council has reservations in relation to the viability of the proposals. Nevertheless, the proposals will be examined in detail and a further meeting will be arranged shortly with both clubs to progress the matter.

It should be noted that the Council has to manage limited resources and at the same time to maximise the usage of the parks and open spaces in a way that also protects the provision of facilities for public use and regulates and balances the impacts from these on other important environmental, heritage and community attributes. The environmental and heritage issues in the Dodder Valley in particular include

* the fact that the this part of the Dodder Valley is a pNHA (Proposed Natural Heritage Area) and with important flora and fauna interest
* the Old Dublin City Watercourse runs through Kennedy's Field and may have archaeological interest also

Therefore, the Council may not be in a position to satisfy the demands of all the sports organisations involved and may have to take decisions that satisfy only some of the demands of the clubs concerned.

The Elected Members will be briefed on the outcome of the next meeting with Knocklyon Utd and Bros Pearse AC.”

Following contributions from Councillors P. Foley and P. Donovan, Mr. Hannon responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

With the agreement of the Members the following motion in the name of Councillor P. Foley was **WITHDRAWN.**

**DEVELOPMENT OF PITCHES ON GROUNDS AT DODDER VALLEY PARK AND A GRASS RUNNING TRACK ON THE GROUNDS KNOWN AS KENNEDY FIELD**

**MOTION (4): Item ID: 41191**

"That this Area Committee recommends that the grounds in Dodder Valley park (behind Scoil Carmel and down to Mount Carmel Park) - which was previously earmarked for a grass running track and playing pitches - be developed only as pitches and at least 3 be made available for the use of Knocklyon Utd.

The grass running track should in turn be put on the grounds known as Kennedy field between Spawell Roundabout and the M50 - which was earmarked to be developed as an extra pitch for Knocklyon Utd.

It has been made clear by representatives of Knocklyon Utd. that only if the extra pitches are developed in Dodder Valley Park will Knocklyon Utd. be in a position to accommodate the Running track in Kennedy field.

This work should be carried out as soon as possible subject to the approval of each of the committee’s of Knocklyon Utd, Bros. Pearse and Templeogue Athletics Club."

**RTT/212/14 REPORT ON GRAFFITI**

**HEADED ITEM (15): Public Realm Item ID: 41428**

Mr. L. Magee, Senior Engineer, presented the following report:

[Report on Graffiti](http://intranet/cmas/documents/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-Terenure%20Area%20Committee/2014/November/Rathfarnham-Templeogue-TerenureACM11thNovember2014/41428_Nov%20HI%20Graffiti.doc)

Following contributions from Councillors D. Looney and J. Lahart, Mr. Magee responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

**RTT/213/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (16): Public Realm Item ID: 41294**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/214/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**COR (3): Public Realm Item ID: 41295**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Water & Drainage**

**RTT/215/14 QUESTIONS**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/216/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (17): Water & Drainage Item ID: 41292**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/217/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (7): Water & Drainage Item ID: 41293**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**Housing**

**RTT/218/14 QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Donovan **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No.13, Question 17 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTT/219/14 SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS**

**QUESTION (17): Councillor D. O'Donovan Item ID: 41269**

"To ask the Chief Executive to advise how many social housing units are contained within the current planning approved developments within the Rathfarnham/Terenure/Templeogue areas?"

**REPLY:**

At this point in time there are no signed Part V agreements in place which provide for the delivery of designated social units in the Rathfarnham/Terenure/Templeogue area.

Negotiations to agree Part V arrangements continue to be conducted in respect of all residential developments for which there is a requirement for Part V compliance as part of the planning permission.

Part 8 approval under the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 2001-2003 has been obtained inrespect of 96 social housing units at Stocking Lane, Ballycullen, Co. Dublin.

**RTT/220/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (18): Housing Item ID: 41274**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/221/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (8): Housing Item ID: 41275**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/222/14 MAINTENANCE OF TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION AT STOCKING AVENUE**

**MOTION (6): Item ID: 41323**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Kearns:-

"That this Committee agrees that the Traveller Accommodation at Stocking Avenue is not maintained to an acceptable standard; agrees that there is consistent illegal 'over-wall' dumping (among other issues) and requests the Chief Executive to take every available measure to ensure that the environment at this location is improved substantially; that weekly checks and inspections are undertaken and that the residents are communicated with a view to informing them that the current state of the environment is utterly unacceptable."

The following report by the Chief Executive was **READ:**

“The Residential Caravan Park at Stocking Hill consists of 10 bays for the accommodation of members of the Travelling community. The site has a caretaker who is on site a couple of times a week and is visited on a regular basis by staff from the Traveller Accommodation Unit. The Council is responsible for the maintenance of the day units and the communal areas of the site. Any requests for maintenance works are processed by the Traveller Accommodation Unit and carried out.

The Traveller Accommodation Unit also monitors illegal dumping on or around Traveller specific developments. The Stocking Hill Residential Caravan Park is monitored by CCTV cameras and any evidence of illegal dumping is reported to the Litter Warden. The caretaker on site submits regular reports to the Traveller Accommodation Unit also.

When illegal dumping has occurred and there is sufficient proof that it is a tenant who has carried this out, they are called in for an interview. They are reminded that under the terms of their Tenancy agreement they must keep the area around their home free from rubbish. A verbal warning is issued initially and if the problem persists a series of warning letters will issue culminating in the service of a Notice to Quit.

In the last two years all residents at Stocking Hill have been written to in relation to the illegal dumping of waste. Further letters have been issued to individual tenants where it is suspected that they have been involved in dumping. Interviews have been held with these Tenants and at these meetings where sufficient evidence was available 3 litter fines were issued by the Council’s Litter Warden.

The Traveller Accommodation Unit has also worked with Public Realm to assist them with the request for information pursuant to Section II 5 (5) of the South Dublin Household Waste Bye-laws 2012. This obliges families to submit evidence of disposal of household waste and the waste collection service they have engaged. Thirteen letters were issued to residents at Stocking Hill who did not appear to have a waste collection service and interviews were held with these tenants also.

Further to the establishment of the Management and Maintenance sub committee of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee, two pilot resident associations have been formed. It is envisaged that the formation of these committees will promote a sense of ownership among residents of sites and that the issue of legal dumping can be included on the Agenda and also targeted in this way. It is hoped that the pilot programmes can prove successful and be rolled out to sites like Stocking Hill.

The issue of dumping at the Stocking Hill site was discussed at the most recent Maintenance and Management sub committee meeting of the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee and it was agreed that the Council would continue to work intensively with the residents to prevent dumping.

The area adjacent to the site will be cleaned up in the near future.”

Following contributions from Councillors J. Lahart, S. Holland and P. Kearns, Mr. H. Hogan, Senior Executive Officer, responded to queries raised and the report was **NOTED.**

**Community**

**RTT/223/14 QUESTIONS**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Lahart, seconded by Councillor P. Donovan **RESOLVED:**

“That pursuant to Standing Order No.13, Question 18 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

**RTT/224/14 COMMUNITY CENTRES**

**QUESTION (18): Councillor D. O'Donovan Item ID: 41266**

"To ask the Chief Executive, regarding Community Centres in the Rathfarnham/Terenure/Templeogue areas. Many of these were built with funds raised from within the community. What is the current situation with these as some of them are being paid rent from, amongst others, the Department of Education. How much profit are they making and who benefits from these profits, if any?"

**REPLY:**

Community Centres owned and built on Council lands are managed by voluntary management committees comprising of representatives from the respective local communities and representatives from statutory agencies and are structured as stand alone companies, registered with the Companies Registration Office (CRO). They are usually Companies with Limited Guarantee and follow CRO guidelines in relation to having Memorandum and Articles of Association, Audited Annual Accounts and an Annual General Meeting.

The funds used to finance the construction of individual community centres varied from centre to centre, depending on what funding streams were open at the time of their construction, but usually consisted of contributions both from local community fund raising efforts and from significant Government and/or Local Authority Funding streams.

These local committees / companies are tasked with the running and management of the local facilities in a sustainable manner, providing activities and services to help meet local community needs and to generate an income to meet centre running costs. Any profits made, which are usually very limited are re-invested back into the facilities and the provision of services within the facilities. A significant element of cross subsidisation generally takes place across the broad spectrum of activities and events. Information regarding the financial affairs of these committees / companies are usually available to respective communities / members and the presentation of Audit Annual Accounts at the respective AGM's provides specific detail as to annual income and expenditure and any surplus / deficits that respective centres may have.

**RTT/225/14 APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS**

**HEADED ITEM (19): Community Item ID: 41271**

Mr. P. Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, presented the following report:

“Application for a grant under South Dublin County Council’s Community Grants Scheme has been received from the organisations listed below. Payment of these grants, in accordance with the conditions of the Scheme and in the amounts set out hereunder, is recommended for approval:-

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref:** | **Name of Group** | **Type of Application** | **Date Received** | **Amount** |
| GF2258 | Rathfarnham Business Forum | Community Activity Grant | 29/10/14 | €500 |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GF2251 | The Park Community Centre Ltd | Employment Grant for New or Existing Community Centres | 29/09/2014 | €10,000 |

Following a contribution from Councillor J. Lahart, Mr. Murphy responded to queries raised.

It was proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, seconded by Councillor D. Looney and **RESOLVED:**

“that this Committee recommends that South Dublin County Council **APPROVE** the grants as recommended in the foregoing report.”

**RTT/226/14 NEW WORKS**

**HEADED ITEM (20): Community Item ID: 41272**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

**RTT/227/14 CORRESPONDENCE**

**CORRESPONDENCE (9): Community Item ID: 41273**

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this heading.

The meeting concluded at 4.50pm.

Siniú \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dáta \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

An Cathaoirleach