## **COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÁTHA CLIATH THEAS** **SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council February 2023 Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2023 through Microsoft 365 Teams and in Person in the Council Chambers. Today’s Area Committee Meeting was webcast as the Council has extended webcasting to all Area Committee meetings from January 2023. The extension of webcasting Area Committee meetings demonstrates our commitment to promoting transparency and supporting understanding and participation in local democracy.

### **COUNCILLORS PRESENT**

Alan Edge

David McManus

Emma Murphy

Lyn Hagin Meade

Ronan McMahon

Laura Donaghy

Pamela Kearns

Yvonne Collins

Carly Baily

Lyn McCrave

Mark Lynch

Brian Lawlor

### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Senior Executive Officer Mary Maguire, Brenda Pierce

Communication Manager Declan Healy

Senior Engineer Leo Magee

Senior Architect Cian Harte

Heritage Officer Rosaleen Dwyer

A/Project Resident Engineer David Grant

Senior Executive Librarian Laura Joyce

Senior Executive Architect Patrick Harrington

Administrative Officer Susan Sinclair, Adrienne Moloney, Sheila Kelly, Maria Nugent

A/Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Brendan Redmond

Senior Staff Officer Adrienne McGee

Staff Officer Ashling Byrne

Clerical Officer Ciara Brennan

**An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade presided.**

### **RTFB/44/H1/23 Item ID:77833**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Rathfarnham/Templeogue/Firhouse/Bohernabreena Area Committee dealing with Housing, Community, Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, Libraries, Corporate, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Environment, Water & Drainage held on 10th January 2023 which have been circulated, were submitted, and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor L Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor R. McMahon, and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 10th January 2023 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

[H1 Minutes of January Meeting](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77871)

**RTFB/45/23 - Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor L Hagin Meade, seconded by Councillor E Murphy, and **RESOLVED** “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1 - 9 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **RTFB/46/C1/23 Item ID:77816 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/47/H2/23 Item ID:77827 – New Works**

NEW WORKS (No Business)

### **RTFB/48/H3/23 Item ID:77836 – Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants (No Business)

### **RTFB/49/H4/23 Item ID:77837 – Library News and Events**

The following report was presented by Laura Joyce, Senior Executive Librarian

[H4 Libraries Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77647)  
[H4(i) Libraries Event Statistics](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77646)  
Following contributions from Councillors A Edge, E Murphy, Y Collins and R McMahon, Laura Joyce, Senior Executive Librarian responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

### **RTFB/50/M1/23 Item ID:77724 – Library Amenities**

Proposed by Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade, Seconded by Councillor R McMahon

**Cathaoirleach's Business**

To ask our local libraries to facilitate and advertise the availability of amenities, such as room space and textbook learning resources for home school families and early school leavers.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

Library amenities and room spaces are available for all the community to use. There is always a high demand for rooms and a booking system is in place to ensure a fair distribution and to allow the library to run our own annual programme of events. Books are purchased in line with our Stock Management Policy. Although it is not customary to purchase school textbooks, support material such as literacy schemes, *Revise Wise* and Leaving and Junior Certificate novels are offered. In addition, a comprehensive programme of events covering areas including literacy and STEAM is also offered to children, young people and families.

Following contributions from Councillors L Hagin Meade and R Mc Mahon, Laura Joyce Senior Executive Librarian responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/51/C2/23 Item ID:77814 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/52/H5/23 Item ID:77824 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

## **Performance & Change Management**

### **RTFB/53/C3/23 Item ID:77817 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/54/H6/23 Item ID:77828 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/55/Q1/23 Item ID:77951 – 300K Have Your Say**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey

To ask the manager for an update on the €300k Have Your Say participatory budget.

**REPLY:**

[Q1 300k Rathfarnham Templeogue Firhouse Bohernabreena Update](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77701)

### **RTFB/56/Q2/23 Item ID:77776 -Nature Trail Scheme 300K Have Your Say**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins

To ask when the Nature Trail scheme, one of the successful projects in the €300k Have Your Say scheme is due to start and finish please? It is hoped it will be in place for the summer months.

**REPLY:**

Our records show that this project is complete in Woodlawn Park. The nature trail signage was installed December 2021 at Dodder Valley Park with any small completion work carried out in 2022.

In relation to the Nature Trail in Rathfarnham Castle park, this is scheduled to be progressed in RTFB/00/1 of this year.

### **RTFB/57/C4/23 Item ID:77813 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/58/H7/23 Item ID:77823 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/59/M2/23 Item ID:77949 – Tree Pits Cromwellsfort Road**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey, Second by Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade

To ask the manager to communicate with Dublin City Council in relation to a large number of tree pits that they have installed along Cromwellsfort Road, asking for information on the price paid for works carried out, the level of work involved and how the trees have done since being planted.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

If the motion is passed by the members a letter will be written to Dublin City Council in this regard.

Following contributions from Councillors C Bailey, P Kearns, Y Collins and R McMahon, Mary Maguire Senior Executive Officer and Leo Magee Senior Engineer responded to queries, a commitment was given to contact Dublin City Council and report back to Councillors on any proposals and the Report was **NOTED**.

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/60/Q3/23 Item ID:77952 - Teenspaces**

Proposed by Councillor Carly Bailey

To ask the Manager for an update on planned Teenspaces for both LEAs, including timelines.

**REPLY:**

 Public Realm have started work on the procurement of all the remaining Teenspaces.  We have also started the consultation process.  Over the past month we have engaged with Comhairle No nOg and Foroige on the Teenspaces to decide on how the consultations should be carried out.  We have decided that the remaining Teenspaces will involve design workshops which we hope can be facilitated by the local schools and will be supported by Comhairle and Foroige.

In 2023 we plan on developing Teenspaces in Whitechurch and Dodder Valley Park (West).  Given the procurement timelines it will likely be RTFB/00/3 or RTFB/00/4 before they will be completed. In RTFB/00/1/RTFB/00/2 2024 we plan on developing a Teenspace in Dodder Valley Park (East). The construction on the Teenspace at Tymon Limekiln will commence in RTFB/00/2 2023.

### **RTFB/61/Q4/23 Item ID:77901 – Hedgerows Prospect Manor**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Council please provide an update on the cutting of the hedgerows in Prospect Manor which were due to take place during this cutting season? Can you please provide a timescale in relation to the same?

**REPLY:**

A commitment was given in 2022 that the hedge cutting required in Prospect Manor would be carried out in October last however this work has not been done as yet.  Arrangements will be made to have this work done before the end of February and the commencement of the wildlife act ban on hedge cutting from March 1st.

### **RTFB/62/Q5/23 Item ID:77902 – Playspaces Dodder Valley Park**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Council please provide an update on the locations and timescales for opening for the new playspaces in Dodder Valley Park?

**REPLY:**

The playspace at the Old Bawn end of Dodder Park is completed and was opened prior to Christmas.  The playground at Mt Carmel is substantially complete. Public Realm are arranging to assess the accessibility of a number of features and if satisfactory the safety inspection will be arranged and the facility opened without delay.  It is likely that it will be open in the second week of February.  The large embankment slide has been completed and grass has been laid.  Once we are satisfied that the grass has established, we will ask for the fencing to be removed. This is obviously very weather dependant and removing the fencing too soon could result in very muddy conditions.

Works on the playground at Cherryfield are due to commence shortly and we expect to open it in early April, in time for the school Easter holidays.

### **RTFB/63/C5/23 Item ID:77819 - Correspondence**

Correspondence(No Business)

### **RTFB/64/H8/23 Item ID:77830 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/65/M3/23 Item ID:77723 – Park Lighting**

Proposed by Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade, Seconded by Councillor E Murphy

**Cathaoirleach's Business**

That this council develop a winter walking lighted amenity for a local park. open to the public 4-8pm daily in the winter months, to attract residents on winter evenings to use the park, similar to the Marlay Park lighted walk in DLR.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

South Dublin County Council parks are closed to the public at the fall of light with closing times ranging from 9pm in summer months to 5pm in winter.  The Council's Public Realm Section does not generally install amenity lighting in public parks to facilitate night-time walking as this would give rise to concerns relating to public safety and security as well as concerns of disruption to wildlife and ecology.  Public lighting has been provided in park car parks as well as in some parks and open space locations, to aid permeability on active travel routes such as the Dodder Greenway.  The Council's Public Realm Section currently has no plans to provide a walking lighted amenity in a local park.

Following contributions from Councillors L Hagin Meade, E Murphy, C Bailey, P Kearns, A Edge, R McMahon and Y Collins, Brendan Redmond A/Senior Executive Parks Superintendent responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

### **RTFB/66/M4/23 Item ID:77769 – Bohernabreena Cemetery**

Proposed by Councillor Yvonne Collins, Seconded by L Hagin Meade

That this Council carries out improvement works to Bohernabreena Cemetery to include tree planting, landscaping and upgrading the car park.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

The Public Realm Section has staff assigned on a permanent basis to the maintenance of Bohernabreena graveyard.  Those staff provide regular landscape maintenance such as tree pruning, weeding, edging, etc. During the grass cutting season the grass is cut weekly using a variety of equipment including ride on lawn mower, pedestrian mower and strimmer.  Cleaning of the graveyard and servicing of waste bunkers is carried out daily.

The Public Realm Section will examine a number of options to improve the appearance of the graveyard including possibilities for tree planting and the planting of pollinator friendly bulbs in areas which are not required for grave plots.  The development of additional grave plots, cremation plots and angel plots in the graveyard is continuing on an ongoing basis.  The proposal to upgrade the car park will be examined in conjunction with the next phase of grave plot developments.

Following contributions from Councillors Y Collins, A Edge, E Murphy, R McMahon and P Kearns, Leo Magee Senior Engineer responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

### **RTFB/67/M5/23 Item ID:77948 – Gym & Callisthenics Equipment in Dodder Valley Park**

Proposed by Councillor Alan Edge, Seconded by Councillor L Hagin Meade

That this Area Committee supports the installation of gym and calisthenics equipment in Dodder Valley Park, recognising the beneficial impacts of outdoor fitness activity for all ages and for older people in particular.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

Calisthenics workout equipment has been provided in several parks across South Dublin County including facilities provided in Tymon Park, Knockmitten Park, Ballycragh Park, Collinstown Park, Balgaddy and Griffeen Valley Park. In addition to this calisthenics workout equipment will also be installed in Clondalkin Park in the coming weeks as part of a Sláintecare funded scheme there.  There is currently no funding provided for the installation of calisthenics equipment in Dodder Valley Park.

With regard to the provision of recreational facilities for all ages there are a number of playspaces currently being developed in Dodder Valley Park for younger age groups.  Provision has also been made in the capital budget for the installation of two teen spaces there. In some instances, subject to consultation with local teenagers, calisthenics are included as part of the teen space provision.  The facilities mentioned above which have been provided at Ballycragh, Collinstown and Griffeen Valley Parks were provided in this way under the teenspace programme.  The facilities at Balgaddy and Clondalkin Park have been funded by Slaintecare while facilities at Tymon Park and Knockmitten Park have been carried out under the public realm improvement works programme.

Following contributions from Councillors A Edge, P Kearns, E Murphy, R McMahon, Y Collins and L McCrave, Brendan Redmond A/Senior Executive Parks Superintendent responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/68/C6/23 Item ID:77811 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/69/H9/23 Item ID:77825 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

## **Water & Drainage**

### **RTFB/70/Q6/23 Item ID:77905 – Ballycullen Green**

Proposed by Councillor E. Murphy

Can the Council please provide an update on the sewer / foul smelling water situation in Ballycullen Green and the Oldcourt Road?

**REPLY:**

A foul blockage was cleared in Ballycullen Green estate on 24th January 2023.

Ballycullen Green estate is not taken in charge.  Hence the drainage is private and residents should contact the developer regarding drainage issues.

### **RTFB/71/C7/23 Item ID:77821 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/72/H10/23 Item ID:77832 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/73/H11/23 Item ID:78031 – Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme**

The following Report was presented by David Grant, A/Project Resident Engineer

**Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme**

[H11 Whitechurch Stream Flood Alleviation Scheme](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77782)

## Following contributions from Councillors Y Collins, P Kearns and L McCrave, David Grant A/Project Resident Engineer responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/74/C8/23 Item ID:77815 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/75/H12/23 Item ID:77826 – New Works**

**The following Reports were presented by Brenda Pierce Senior Executive Officer and Cian Harte Senior Architect**

**A) Proposed Pre-Planning design for housing at Castlefield**

Two adjacent sites have been identified at Castlefield Avenue and Knocklyon Road, Knocklyon, Dublin 16 as potential sites for the provision of mixed tenure housing.

The County Development Plan’s interim Housing Needs Demand Analysis identified 15,576 new dwellings are anticipated to be required in the period 2022-2028 (2,613 per annum), in addition in South Dublin 2,429 additional households will not qualify for a mortgage and do not meet the affordability criteria for private rental.  The number of persons on the waiting list for social housing support as of end of January 2023 was approximately 5,800 with a further 5,000 persons on the waiting list for Housing Assistance Payment (HAP).  Our Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 sets out the Council’s strategy to deliver over 3,400 new build social housing and approx. 1,500 affordable homes over the 5-year period.

The nature and location of the sites is suitable for a mixture of 1-, 2- & 3-bedroom own door homes and apartments, directly adjacent to the existing housing at Homeville Court to the west of the lower site, and Taoibh Na Coille to the west side of the upper subject site.  The sites are zoned residential in the County Development plan 2022-2028.  A preliminary capacity study has been carried out, and this study is based on a series of house/apartment types which have been successfully used by SDCC at several other locations in the South Dublin County Council administrative area, as well as some additional unit types to be developed. The M50 road reservation encroaches on the eastern portion of the site and reduces the potential yield to this side of the site.

Based on this study, the site is expected to accommodate between 30 - 35 homes. It is also proposed to provide private open space and associated amenities for the future residents as part of this scheme.

If the members approval the proposal detailed design studies are now required to progress the design proposals, and to identify the most appropriate development proposal for this site.

[H12(A) Drawings Castlefield](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77787)

**B) Proposed Pre-Planning design for housing at Stocking Lane.**

A site has been identified at the junction of Stocking Lane & Stocking Avenue as a potential site for the provision of social housing. The site is zoned residential in the County Development plan 2022-2028.

The County Development Plan’s interim Housing Needs Demand Analysis identified 15,576 new dwellings are anticipated to be required in the period 2022-2028 (2,613 per annum.  The number of persons on the waiting list for social housing support as of end of January 2023 was approximately 5,800 with a further 5,054 persons on the waiting list for Housing Assistance Payment (HAP).  Our Housing Delivery Action Plan 2022-2026 sets out the Council’s strategy to deliver over 3,400 new build social housing.

The nature and location of the sites is suitable for a mixture of own door homes and apartments, and a preliminary capacity study has been carried out based on a mix of 1-, 2-, & 3-bedroom homes. This study is based on a series of house/apartment types which have been successfully used by SDCC at a number of other locations in the South Dublin County Council administrative area, as well as some additional unit types to be developed. The site slopes steeply from east to west, and across the site form North to south which will influence the design and final cost of any proposal on this site.

Based on this study, the site is expected to accommodate between 30 - 35 homes, though this may increase depending on the final design height of the scheme. It is also proposed to provide private open space and associated amenities for the future residents as part of this scheme.

If the members approve the proposal detailed design studies are now required to progress the design proposals, and to identify the most appropriate development proposal for this site.

[H12(B) Drawings Stocking Lane](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77788)

Following contributions from Councillors E Murphy, Y Collins, C Barley, A Edge, P Kearns and R McMahon, Brenda Pierce Senior Executive Officer and Cian Harte Senior Architect responded to queries raised and the Report was **Approved to Progress**.

## **Community**

### **RTFB/76/C9/23 Item ID:77812 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/77/H13/23 Item ID:77822 – Community Recognition Fund**

The Report was presented by Maria Nugent, Administration Officer

**Community Recognition Fund**

[H13 Community Recognition Fund](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77770)

### Following contributions from Councillors A Edge, C Bailey and E Murphy, Maria Nugent Administration Officer responded to queries raised and the Report was **NOTED**.

### **RTFB/78/H14/23 Item ID:77835 - Deputations**

Deputations for Noting (No Business)

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/79/C10/23 Item ID:77818 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/80/H15/23 Item ID:77829 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/81/M6/23 Item ID:77722 – Dublin’s Monumental Mountains**

Proposed by Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade, Seconded by Councillor E Murphy

**Cathaoirleach's Business**

To ask the Manager, following the launch last year of Dublin's Monumental Mountains, to investigate the feasibility of a signposted archaeological monuments trail for Firhouse Bohernabreena, and in conjunction to consider the development of a guided walking tour of archaeological monuments.

**The following Report from the Chief Executive was Read:**

The publication *Dublin’s Monumental Mountains* was one of a number of project outputs from the ‘Community Archaeology in the Dublin Mountains’ project (CADM).  This is a cooperative project established in 2021 by the Heritage Officers of SDCC and DLRCC, in partnership with the Dublin Mountains Partnership (DMP) and with core funding from the Heritage Council.  An application to continue funding into 2023 has been made to the Heritage Council and is awaiting a decision.

The CADM project aims to: raise the profile of the rich archaeological heritage of the Dublin Mountains; engage with landowners in relation to management and access; encourage appropriate public engagement with recorded monument sites; and develop archaeological awareness training to upskill existing DMP Volunteer Rangers and other key recreational stakeholders.

Another objective of the project involves the development of a design template for interpretive signage for a selected number of key archaeological sites across the Dublin Mountains.   These initial sites were chosen based on ease of public accessibility and landownership issues, and the  significance of the archaeological record at these sites.  Text and photographs for these initial panels have been finalised, and design and layout are underway.

As part of the awareness-raising aspect of the CADM project, the provision of guided walking events is seen as a key delivery to develop.  A number of well-received public walking events were held in 2021 and 2022 at the Hell Fire Club in SDCC, and at  Carrickgollogan/Rathmichael, and Two Rock / Ballyedmunduff in DLRCC.  Further walks at other locations will be developed for 2023.

Following contributions from Councillor L Hagin Meade, the Report was **Noted.**

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/82/Q7/23 Item ID:77738**

Proposed by Councillor Lyn Hagin Meade

To ask the Manager for an update on plans for SDCC traffic flow, parking, security and resident's access to their homes in SDCC, during planned Marlay Park concerts in summer 2023?

**REPLY:**

Plans have yet to be developed that will address traffic flow, parking, security and residents’ access to their homes.  A licence for the concerts must be lodged with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and this will go out to public consultation.  As soon as those plans have been developed, they will be shared with South Dublin County Council.

### **RTFB/83/Q8/23 Item ID:77804**

Proposed by Councillor David McManus

To ask the Chief Executive to explain the use of a green container in the pick-up/drop-off car park on Grange Road, Rathfarnham which was recently installed during the Grange Road cycle scheme, and to consider its removal as it is being used for littering? A photo is attached.

**REPLY:**

 The green containers are planters, and these will be utilized in the coming weeks.

[RTFB/00/8(i) Grange Road car park green container](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=77520)

### **RTFB/84/Q9/23 Item ID:77919**

Proposed by Councillor David McManus

To ask the Chief Executive to review the timing of the green/amber pedestrian lights on Rathfarnham Road (from Credit Union to Rathfarnham Castle) to ensure sufficient time and if the traffic sensor exiting Rathfarnham Wood responds to cyclists waiting on the road?

**REPLY:**

The traffic section has increased the amber crossing times by 3 seconds, which increases the crossing time to 19 seconds on all crossing points.

 I can also confirm that the cyclist detector sensitivity has been increased to the maximum level on the Rathfarnham Wood arm of the junction.

These improvements should improve pedestrian and cyclist safety at this junction.

### **RTFB/85/C11/23 Item ID:77820 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/86/H16/23 Item ID:77831 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/87/H17/23 Item ID:77834 – Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads (No Business)

The meeting concluded at 16:58pm.

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An Cathaoirleach