

## DEPUTATION MEETING REPORT

<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 @ 2.30 p.m.
<b>Deputation Group:</b>	Rath Geal Residents Association
<b>Deputation Attendees:</b>	Darren Hennessy and Tanya Chakarova
<b>Elected Members:</b>	Cllr Francis Timmons, Cllr Eoin O’Broin, Cllr William Joseph Carey, Cllr Trevor Gilligan
<b>Council Officials:</b>	Laurence Colleran (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent), David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) Fionnuala Keane (SSO HSCD Admin), Marian Travers (ASO HSCD Admin), Margaret Farrell (CO HSCD Admin)

Cllr Francis Timmons presided.

### Items discussed:

#### **1. Location St Cuthberts Park service Barrier entrance from Westbourne Rise –**

**Request for SDCC to review and consideration of fitting of a top railing to the high-end level wall left of the barrier entrance and erection of a top railings to the lower end walled area raising height equal to height as rail top either side of the park.**

- The group expressed concern that the service entrance to the park has become problematic over the years as the lower walled area has become a seated area for teenagers and that bikes, scramblers and wheelie bins are easily lifted into the park.
- The group would like the entrance to be a focal point into the park and a railing be installed to make it less attractive to anti-social behaviour.

Laurence Colleran (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) replied to the groups queries.

### Commitment given:

Laurence Colleran agreed that works will be carried out, as part of the tender for works plan for St Cuthberts Park, the Council will make the gate narrower and install bow top railings and walls on both sides of the gate. These will be 1.2 metres high in total (wall with railings on top)

**2. Location Public Refuse Bin end of Westbourne Rise road/corner outside fence line Rath Geal Apartments**

**Public bin to be reinstated at this location. Bin was damaged more than 12 months ago and removed.**

- The group expressed concern that the bin that was located at this area had been damaged and subsequently removed.
- The group would like a bin to be reinstated in or around that area and emptied regularly.

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) replied to the groups queries.

**Commitment given**

David Fennell agreed that there will be a new bin installed within the next 6 weeks in close proximity to where the old bin was. He agreed to monitor the usage to determine how often the bin will be emptied and agreed that it may be emptied daily should there be a requirement.

**3. Location St Cuthberts Park – service barrier entrance from Westbourne Rise.**

**Inside park entrance left hand-side poorly maintained grass area. Request this corner area be tarmac/concreted.**

- The group expressed concern about the area attracting groups of teenagers and the resulting litter.
- They feel that the area could be better maintained if it was tarmac or concrete. If hard surfacing is not an option, then perhaps more plants/shrubbery.

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) replied to the groups queries.

**Commitment given:**

David Fennell stated that hard surfacing that area is likely to encourage more people to congregate more in the area.

He agreed that they will consider improving the landscaping in the area when they are looking at the proposed works to the entrance and railings.

**4. Location St Cuthberts Park fence line inside park down along Rath Geal from Park side**

**Request for support from the Parks side in planting of additional shrubbery that may grow mid/ to fence level height over time.**

- The group expressed concern that there are gaps in the shrubbery along the fence line and there is a need for additional shrubbery on the park side of the fence to give more privacy to the residents in the estate.

David Fennell (Senior Executive Parks Superintendent) replied to the groups queries.

**Comments given:**

David Fennell has agreed to plant similar beech hedges in the 10 gaps that he observed when he walked the length of the fence.

\*The meeting concluded as there was no other business\*