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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council April 2024 Lucan / Palmerstown / North Clondalkin Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2024 Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2024 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**

## Vicky Casserly

## Paul Gogarty

## Alan Hayes

## Madeleine Johansson

## Shane Moynihan

## Derren Ó ‘Brádaigh

## Guss O’Connell

## Liona O’Toole

## Joanna Tuffy

# **Officials Present**

## Senior Executive Officer Laura Leonard

## A/Senior Executive Officer Vivienne Hartnett

## Senior Engineers John Hegarty, Gary Walsh

## Senior Planners Gormla O’Corrain, Eoin Burke

## Senior Executive Parks Superintendent David Fennell

## Senior Executive Librarian Rosena Hand

## Senior Community Officer Paul McAlerney

## Administrative Officers Maria Nugent, Adrienne Moloney

## A/Administrative Officer Laura Abbey

## Assistant Arts Officer Meabh Butler

## Staff Officer Eimear O’Sullivan

## Assistant Staff Officer Eduardo De Oliveira

## Clerical Officers Vikki Cryan, Sharayu Mishra

## Associate Director of KPMG

## In Ireland Liam Mannix

Apologies were received from Councillor E. O’Brien

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Vicky Casserly, presided.

## **LPNC/244/H1/0424 Item ID:83098 - Minutes**

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of March 2024 Lucan Palmerstown North Clondalkin ACM dealing with business relating to Libraries, Economic Development, Performance & Change Management, Corporate, Environment, Water & Drainage, Pb. Realm, Community, Housing, Planning, Transportation.

It was proposed by Councillor V Casserly and seconded by and Councillor S Moynihan and RESOLVED: “That the recommendations contained in the Minutes of the 26th of March 2024 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.**”

[H1 Minutes of March LPNC ACM](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82626)

**LPNC/245/156/0324 – Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor V Casserly and seconded by Councillor G O’Connell and RESOLVED “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1 – 14 be ADOPTED and APPROVED

## **Public Realm**

### **LPNC/246/Q1/0424 Item ID:83138 - Waterstown Park Green Flag**

Proposed by Councillor A. Hayes

To ask the manager if SDCC is on target, regarding it's pollinator planting and other works to achieve another Green Flag for Waterstown Park in the next round of judging.

**REPLY:**

The provision of pollinator planting is one element which is considered under the Environmental Management Section and the Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage Section of Green Flag assessment criteria. Pollinator planting and other works in Waterstown Park is on target with large areas of grassland which include a rich diversity of naturalised wildflowers. This is further enhanced by a significant introduction of pollinator bulbs in the park in 2022 and 2023.

### **LPNC/247/Q2/0424 Item ID:83091 - Neilstown Road Bin Request**

Proposed by Councillor M. Johansson

To ask the Chief Executive if a public bin will be placed at the bust stop no 2124 on the Neilstown Road as agreed a number of years ago.

**REPLY:**

It has not been possible to locate a commitment to install a litter bin at bus stop no 2124 on the Neilstown Road near Harelawn Green. Nevertheless, the location will be assessed for suitability for a litter bin having regard to the Litter Bin Installation Protocol as set out in the Litter Management Plan.

### **LPNC/248/Q3/0424 Item ID:83176 - Tree Programme**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole

Committee request a report on the outstanding trees scheduled for pruning and removal in the current program? Additionally, enquire about the anticipated release date of the next tree program?

**REPLY:**

The table below provides details of the locations where trees will be attended to across the 2024/2025 period. The tree schedule works are based on whole roads and entire estates. Areas are listed in accordance with works required, however, this is subject to amendment as priorities can change. An example of this is Finnstown Abbey estate which was added to the programme for tree removals in April 2024.

The next tree programme will be released towards the end of 2025, ahead of it commencing for the 2026-2028 period.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Year** |
| Adamstown Road/Avenue | 2024 |
| Abbeywood | 2024 |
| Ashpark | 2024 |
| Bewley | 2024 |
| Brookvale | 2024 |
| Ballyowen Road - L1042 (Larkfield to Fonthill Road) | 2025 |
| Culmore Road and Park | 2024 |
| Castle Riada | 2024 |
| Castle Road | 2024 |
| Coldcut Road | 2025 |
| Elm estate street and mature trees | 2024 |
| Esker Road and Drive | 2024 |
| Esker Glebe and Esker Lane OS Mature trees | 2024 |
| Esker Glebe and Esker Lane OS street trees | 2024 |
| Esker Meadow | 2024 |
| Esker Woods | 2024 |
| Esker Lodge street and mature trees | 2024 |
| Fonthill Road and Coldcut Road cycle paths (Greenfort Boundary) | 2024 |
| Foxford and Ballyowen Lane | 2025 |
| Foxdene | 2024 |
| Glenmaroon Road and Park | 2024 |
| Greenfort estate | 2024 |
| Griffeen Road, Avenue & Way | 2024 |
| Harelawn | 2024 |
| Hermitage Way - Rear of Houses | 2025 |
| Hermitage Park - Mature Trees | 2025 |
| Lucan Road (Ballydowd to Woodies) | 2025 |
| Manor Road and Park | 2024 |
| Meile an Ri | 2025 |
| Newcastle Road/R120 and L1011 to Esker Cottages | 2025 |
| Neilstown Estate | 2024 |
| Riversdale Estate | 2025 |
| Riverside Drive | 2024 |
| Rochfort | 2024 |
| Shancastle | 2024 |
| Saint Marks | 2024 |
| Saint Finians | 2024 |
| Sarsfield Park Mature Trees | 2024 |
| St. Lomans Road (L1042) and Ballyowen Road | 2025 |
| Tor an Ri | 2025 |
| Turret Road | 2024 |
| Woodview Heights | 2024 |
| Willsbrook Estate and Road | 2025 |
| Woodavens | 2024 |
| Woodfarm Drive and Avenue | 2024 |
| Westbury | 2025 |

### **LPNC/249/Q4/0424 Item ID:82988 – Biodiversity Initiative**

Proposed by Councillor Joanna Tuffy

To ask Chief Executive to give an update on biodiversity planting and other works in the Lucan Electoral Area, what budget to date has been spent on biodiversity in the Lucan Electoral Area under budget 2023 and 2024 and plans for the remainder of the year and that this update would include specific details of any initiatives covered in this question

**REPLY:**

Pollinator bulb planting was carried out in Griffeen Valley Park at Old Esker Lane (€5,000) and in Watertown Park (€10,000) under the 2023 Improvement Works Programme. As part of the 2024 Improvement Works Programme, pollinator bulb planting will be carried out at Woodview Heights (€8,000), Griffeen Road/Way roundabout (€10,000) and Castle Road/Rochfort roundabout (€10,000).

A mini woodland (€25,000) is also included the 2024 Improvement Programme, and this will be planted near the northwest bank of the River Griffeen between King Johns Bridge and the pedestrian bridge at the back of Lucan Swimming Pool.

In addition to planting, grassland management has been adapted to enhance biodiversity. Long Flowering Meadows and Short Flowering Meadows are now regular features of the landscape.

The Long Flowering Meadow involves a restructuring of mowing patterns and timings with a one cut per annum grassland management regime. Some of the meadow areas are cut at the tail end of the flowering season in late summer and early autumn. This mimics traditional hay meadow management techniques. Other meadow areas are left to overwinter and cut in Spring. This provides nesting and overwintering habitats for many insects.

The Short Flowering Meadows involves restructuring of mowing patterns and timings to approximately 5 cuts per annum. Short flowing meadows are designed to suit public open spaces in residential areas where long flowering meadows may not be practical. This is an objective of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and an environmentally enhancing way of managing public open space. The cutting and collecting programme allows short flowering species to flower and set seed, while also aiming to reduce the overall competition from grass species as the ground is depleted of nitrogen.

These pollinator supportive meadow management initiatives are key actions in SDCC's Climate Change Action Plan. Further information on pollinator initiatives can be found on SDCC's website at this link: [**Pollinators - SDCC**](https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/pollinators/).

### **LPNC/250/Q5/0424 Item ID:83041 – Update on Tree Planting Programme**

Proposed by Councillor Joanna Tuffy

To ask for an update on the tree planting programme for Lucan Palmerstown and North Clondalkin. Were all the trees that are outlined in the programme presented to councillors in November 2023 planted? Has the Council set up a mapping of trees and types of trees for the area and if so can councillors access it?

**REPLY:**

All the trees that were outlined in the programme presented to councillors in November 2023 should have been planted by now. A final tally is being carried out to ensure that there no locations missed.

The council has mapped the Green Infrastructure of the county. This is currently being finalised, and shows the locations of trees throughout the county, along with other key Green Infrastructure elements. There is no system currently in place available to Councillors that maps the trees and types of trees for the area.

### **LPNC/251/H2/0424 Item ID:83120 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/252/C1/0424 Item ID:83107 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/253/M1/0424 Item ID:82805 – Airlie Park Cricket Practice Area**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

This committee agrees to examine the new cricket practice area at Airlie Park, with a view to extending the run up area, to address the muddy section that has emerges and is having a negative impact on training sessions.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The construction of the cricket practice cages in Airlie Park was carried out in accordance with the details and requirements as provided by Adamstown Cricket Club when plans were being developed for the facility. An examination of the facility will be carried out and contact made with Adamstown Cricket Club to determine the extent of the works required to enhance the area. The implementation of any works proposed following examination are subject to the identification of a source of funding.

[M1 Image(i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82136)  
[M1 Image(ii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82137)  
[M1 Image(iii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82135)

Following Contributions from Councillors D Ó ‘Brádaigh and L O’Toole, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/254/M2/0424 Item ID:83030 – Mill Lane Running Path Request**

Proposed by Councillor S. Moynihan, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

To ask the Chief Executive to explore the feasibility of installing a running path around the perimeter of Mill Lane Park, adjacent to a path for use by pedestrians, following the approach set out by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council in Phase 2 of their work for Fernhill Park.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The path around the pitches in Mill Lane is approximately 800 metres long and 2 metres wide. On foot of a similar [Motion](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=68402) at the ACM in December 2020, the path was cleaned of encroaching vegetation and included in the 2021 Improvement works Programme for repair. The repair work was carried out at the time, and this also included the resurfacing of the path leading from the car park down to the pitches. The width of the path is consistent with pedestrian paths used throughout public parks and is available for members of the public who wish to use it for running. There is no proposal to provide a separate running path or increase its width any further.

Following Contributions from Councillors S Moynihan, A Hayes and L O’Toole, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/255/M3/0424 Item ID:83093 – Containers in Ballyowen Park**

Proposed by Councillor M. Johansson, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

That the Chief Executive clarifies who owns the containers in Ballyowen Park that were previously used by local clubs, and that the use of the containers could be opened up to other interested clubs.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The containers in Ballyowen Park are owned by Liffey Valley Rangers Football Club. The club have informed me that the condition of the containers is not in good working order. Public Realm have arranged a meeting with the club next week, to assess the condition of these containers. Once this assessment is complete, SDCC will be in a better position to advise if they are suitable for use by the club itself and the possible use of same for other clubs.

Following Contributions from Councillor M Johansson, Laura Abbey A/Administrative Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/256/M4/0424 Item ID:83135 – Waterstown Park Ground Nesting Birds**

Proposed by Councillor A. Hayes, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

That the Manager give a firm commitment that any works to protect ground nesting birds at Waterstown Park be undertaken outside of nesting season, or, in a way that does not interfere with nesting birds in situ.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The Public Realm Section have been managing the annual cutting of meadow grassland in Waterstown Park having regard to possibility of the presence of ground nesting birds. Grass cutting is avoided during the nesting period in the summer months. Prior to cutting a walkover survey is normally carried out to ensure there are no ground nesting birds are present.

The park was assessed by a Bird Watch expert in summer in 2023 for opportunities to enhance the viability of the park to attract ground nesting birds. The park was deemed to be unsuitable as it is too busy with walkers and lose dogs. In addition, the proximity of hedgerows and trees to the meadows would probably offer vantage points for predators like crows and buzzards who might predate on ground nests.

It is proposed to carry out a bird survey in Waterstown Park in 2025 and this will provide details of the presence or not of ground nesting birds.

Following Contributions from Councillors A Hayes, D Ó’Brádaigh and G O’Connell, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and this Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/257/M5/0424 Item ID:83157 – Facilities at Airlie Park**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly.

That the Chief Executive reports on usage numbers since commencement for the facilities at Airlie Park - including Tennis Courts - since my raising of the matter in January last and also undertakes to make the process of exiting the facilities easier when people end up leaving a few minutes past their allocated times.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Airlie Park - Pitch** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Total** |
| # of active customers | 18 | 39 | 72 | 82 | **211** |
| # of bookings | 28 | 115 | 130 | 127 | **400** |
| # of hours of usage | 47 | 137 | 169 | 186 | **539** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Airlie Park - Tennis Courts** | **Dec** | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Total** |
| # of bookings | 1 | 6 | 14 | 14 | **35** |
| # of hours of usage | 1 | 6 | 17 | 14 | **38** |

The average usage during peak time for the artificial grass pitch is over 90%.

The online booking system allows for clubs to book dressing rooms free of charge when making a booking of the artificial grass pitch. The booking system generates a code that the club use to enter and exit the pitch and a separate code for the dressing rooms. These codes are time sensitive and are for the duration of the booking as well as including a short grace period after the time is up, to allow for the safe exit of users before the gate closes on the pitch.

Should the club or any member find themselves locked into the pitch, they can ring SDCC and arrange to be released. These numbers have been circulated to all clubs along with reminders about exiting the pitch when their time slot is up. This is to allow for the next booking to be able to enter the pitch on time. These numbers are also available on the sign inside the pitch.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Gogarty, L O’Toole and V Casserly, Laura Abbey A/Administrative Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/258/M6/0424 Item ID:83161 – Waterstown Park Bat & Owl Survey**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

This Committee requests that a Bat and Owl survey of Waterstown Park be conducted at the earliest. Also, that Barn Owl Boxes be installed at suitable locations in the park and that a wide ranging survey of wildlife in the Park, the last one was very well supported in 2011.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The most appropriate time to carry out an Owl survey is during the breeding season which is around this time of the year. It would not be possible to organise a survey at short notice due to the availability of qualified surveyors. A survey will be organised for 2025 which will be extended to include an overall bird survey. The installation of Owl boxes will only be considered after the survey if Owls are found to be present.

A swift survey was carried out in the park a number of years ago and on foot of this, Swift boxes were erected on the gable end of Watertown House. Swifts are migratory birds and arrive in Ireland in May and stay until September.

The period for carrying out bat surveys is between April and September. There is a limited pool of surveyors who carry out this work. While every effort will be made to engage a surveyor in the current year, if this is not feasible it will be prioritised for 2025.

Following Contributions from Councillors G O’Connell and V Casserly, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/259/M7/0424 Item ID:83173 – Woodview Heights Path**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

The committee requests the Chief Executive to examine the most suitable method for installing a footpath through the green at Woodview Heights. A desire line has been created in this area where locals, school children, and others walk this route on a daily basis.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

As previously reported under [**Motion 7**](http://intranet/Cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=76111) at the ACM in September 2022, the desire line across the open space which starts from the public footpath in Woodview estate leads onto the bend in Tandy’s Lane where no footpath exists. The views for motorists of the desire line where it reaches Tandy’s Lane are somewhat concealed by the presence of two utility boxes on one side and a property boundary wall on the other side.

It would not be possible to construct a path on this desire line as doing so would invite users to exit the open space onto a public road at a location which is not considered to be safe.

However, the Public Realm Section is meeting with colleagues in the Roads Section to see if a solution can be found to address the sightline issue and ultimately provide a footpath.

[M7 Image(i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82509)  
[M7 Image(ii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82510)

Following Contributions from Councillors L O’Toole, P Gogarty, J Tuffy and V Casserly, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/260/M8/0424 Item ID:83031 – Cleansing/Replacement of Park Signs**

Proposed by Councillor S. Moynihan, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

To ask the Chief Executive to clean or replace the perspex on the park signs (especially those defaced by graffiti) in parks in the Lucan, Palmerstown and North Clondalkin area.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The signs at the entrance to Parks in Lucan, Palmerstown and North Clondalkin have been subjected to vandalism since they were installed. Regular graffiti has also led to the deterioration of the Perspex in some locations. Significant efforts have been made to source alternative robust materials that would address the graffiti and vandalism issue, however, this has not been possible to date. Signs that are currently defaced will be cleaned where possible. If it is not possible to clean the sign efforts will be made again to source new Perspex. Where particular signs are being constantly vandalised or in poor condition and detracting from the park entrance they will be removed.

Following Contributions from Councillors S Moynihan, G O’Connell and V Casserly, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/261/M9/0424 Item ID:83170 – Bank Holiday Bin Emptying**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive ensures that staff rosters are scheduled in advance to ensure a timely emptying of bins at key congregation pinch points in Lucan, North Clondalkin and Palmerstown during the May, June and August 2024 bank holiday weekends, given that reports of overflowing bins have historically been highest at these times; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

To ensure that bins are managed at weekends staff are brought in on Saturdays to empty park bins. On Sundays, staff are brought in to empty all bins that require emptying. This includes park bins, bins in villages and bins on roads. The bin emptying procedure that is in place for Sundays is repeated on bank holiday Mondays. Staff rosters are scheduled in advance of Bank Holiday weekends.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Gogarty, D Ó’Brádaigh, J Tuffy and L O’Toole, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/262/M10/0424 Item ID:83164 – Glenaulin Park**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

As a follow up to Item 81034 that the following terms of reference, as amended, if necessary, be communicated to the relevant Local Area Committee of Dublin City Council for agreement/amendment so that the proposed joint committee can go ahead when the new Council is established:

a) To examine how the Park can be developed so that it provides the widest range of recreational opportunities for both communities, a children's play area, a MUGA, a Ball Wall. Seating areas.

b) to explore how surveillance can be improved to help combat unsocial and antisocial activities.

c) to identify ways in which the existing pitches can be available in reasonable weather conditions.

d) to promote the development of an all-inclusive All Weather Playing Pitch; address the regulation of traffic to and from the park and to explore off-street parking.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The details contained in the motion are noted and it is hoped that these issues will form the basis of any joint discussions to take place in the future between Dublin City Council and South Dublin County Council regarding Glenaulin Park. No contact has been made as yet with the City Council in relation to these issues, it is proposed that this will take place following the local elections in June and the formation of new Councils in both areas.

Following Contributions from Councillors G O’Connell, A Hayes, S Moynihan and M Johansson, David Fennell Senior Executive Parks Superintendent Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

## **Environment**

### **LPNC/263/H3/0424 Item ID:83115 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/264/C2/0424 Item ID:83099 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Water Drainage**

### **LPNC/265/H4/0424 Item ID:83122 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/266/C3/0424 Item ID:83109 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Community**

### **LPNC/267/H5/0424 Item ID:83149 - South Dublin Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030 March 2024**

The following report was presented by Liam Mannix Associate Director of KPMG in Ireland

[H5 South Dublin Economic and Community Plan 2024-2030 March 2024](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82486)

Following Contributions from Councillor S Moynihan, Liam Mannix Associate Director of KPMG in Ireland Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted.**

### **LPNC/268/H6/0424 Item ID:83110 – Deputations for Noting**

Wood Avens Residents Association Deputation Meeting Held On 27/03/2024

[H6 Wood Avens Deputations Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82613)

Following Contributions from Councillor S Moynihan, the Report was **Noted.**

### **LPNC/269/H7/0424 Item ID:83112 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/270/C4/0424 Item ID:83100 - Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/271/M11/0424 Item ID:83180 – Lucan Pool Prices**

Proposed by Councillor V Casserly and Councillor J Tuffy, seconded by Councillor L. O’Toole

**Cathaoirleach's Business**

That the ACM urges that Aura Leisure review its pricing structure for use of the Lucan Pool taking into account the concerns that have been raised by councillors about the prices that they have been informed of

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Aura Leisure were awarded the tender for operating Lucan Pool and the prices they are providing are what they deem necessary to make it a viable operation. However, we are continuing to engage with Aura about their proposed price structure and expressing the views of the Elected Members and the public and will continue to encourage them to look at the feasibility of offering some concession prices.

**This Motion was taken in conjunction with Motion 12**

### **LPNC/272/M12/0424 Item ID:83156 – Lucan Pool Update**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive provides further updates on the projected Lucan pool and leisure complex opening date as well as discussions with Aura regarding pricing, given that this is the last opportunity for elected reps to query this matter at an Area Committee meeting during the lifetime of this Council; and if a statement can be made on the matter.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The projected completion date for Lucan Leisure Campus, comprising the new swimming pool and upgraded existing leisure centre, is in the second week of June, based on an updated contractor programme. This timeline depends on a number of key programme objectives being delivered in the interim including, most critically, external steelworks, pool deck screeding and tiling, pool filling/commissioning, and electrical sub-contractor works, which will all impact on other required finishing works and the contractor has been instructed to prioritise these critical dependencies and to ensure appropriate resources and productivity on site to achieve completion on schedule.

Once works on the campus are completed Aura Leisure will move onto the site and will determine an opening date.

Aura Leisure were awarded the tender for operating Lucan Pool and the prices they are providing are what they deem necessary to make it a viable operation. However, we are continuing to engage with Aura about their proposed price structure and expressing the views of the elected members and the public and will continue to encourage them to look at the feasibility of offering some concession prices.

Following Contributions from Councillors J Tuffy, P Gogarty, V Casserly, L O'Toole, D Ó’Brádaigh, S Moynihan and M Johansson, Paul McAlerney Senior Community Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motions were **Agreed**.

## **Housing**

### **LPNC/273/H8/0424 Item ID:83146 - Housing Delivery Report**

The following report was presented by Vivienne Hartnett A/Senior Executive Officer

[H8 Housing Delivery Report](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82582)

Following Contributions from Councillors A Hayes, M Johansson, L O’Toole and S Moynihan, Vivienne Hartnett A/Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted.**

### **LPNC/274/H9/0424 Item ID:83145 - Allocations Report (For Noting)**

The following report was presented by Adrienne Moloney Administrative Officer

**REPLY:**

Quarter 1 allocations report, figures as of 31st March 2024 below;

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Allocations** | **County wide Total** | **Lucan/Palmerston/Fonthill** |
| CBL - General | 24 | 5 |
| CBL - HAP | 34 | 7 |
| CBL - RAS Fixed T/F | 4 | 2 |
| CBL - Homeless | 0 | 0 |
| Homeless | 66 | 9 |
| Medical | 20 | 2 |
| Age Friendly | 31 | 1 |
| Tenant in Situ | 14 | 5 |
| **Totals** | **193** | **31** |
| Transfers | 40 | 3 |
| RAS NTQ | 13 | 0 |
| Priority - Welfare | 9 | 2 |
| **TOTALS** | **255** | **36** |

Following Contributions from Councillors S Moynihan, L O’Toole and M Johansson, Adrienne Moloney Administrative Officer Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted.**

### **LPNC/275/H10/0424 Item ID:83116 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/276/C5/0424 Item ID:83103 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/277/M13/0424 Item ID:83169 – Approved Housing Bodies**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

The committee is eager to gain insights into the workings of various Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) within our area, given the increase in AHBs in various developments.

We believe that a meeting with representatives from these organizations at an upcoming Area Committee Meeting (ACM) would provide valuable information and foster collaboration.

It is requested that the Chief Executive assists in arranging a meeting where each AHB can present an overview of their operations, specifically detailing how they contribute to various developments within our county.

This would offer committee members an opportunity to understand their roles, ongoing projects, and any plans for future developments.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

South Dublin County Council will invite the Housing Alliance to present to members at the May 2024 Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting. The Housing Alliance is a collaboration of seven of Ireland’s largest Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs): Clúid Housing, Circle Voluntary Housing, Co-operative Housing Ireland, Oaklee, Respond, The Iveagh Trust and Tuath Housing.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated to all members following this meeting.

Following Contributions from Councillors L O’Toole and J Tuffy, Vivienne Hartnett A/Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Planning**

### **LPNC/278/Q6/0424 Item ID:83174 – Architectural Conservation Projects**

Proposed by Councillor Joanna Tuffy

To ask for an update on all expenditure by South Dublin on conservation since June 2019, of St. Finian's Church and Graveyard, King John's Bridge, and any other expenditure on conservation of historic sites or buildings in local electoral areas of Lucan and Palmerstown Fonthill.

**REPLY:**

St. Finians Church and King Johns Bridge are completed architectural conservation projects which saw the conservation repair of council owned protected structure sites that were funded through the Architectural Conservation Capital fund and other funding streams.

The total expenditure for each project is detailed below:

St. Finians Church and Graveyard €46,832.69 (During 2020/2021)

King Johns Bridge €38,243.20 (During 2019-2023)

**Total Expenditure €85,075.89**

To date these are the only projects involving a council owned protected structure site to have been completed in the Lucan, Palmerstown and Fonthill after June 2019.

### **LPNC/279/H11/0424 Item ID:83119 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/280/C6/0424 Item ID:83106 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/281/M14/0424 Item ID:83165 – Cherry Orchard Industrial Estate**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

To ask the Chief Executive if there has been any progress or contact with the proposers of a residential centre for those seeking international protection at Cherry Orchard Industrial Estate or alternatively the intention to proceed with the development that has acquired planning permission or from any other unit in the Estate seeking to avail of the Regeneration Option.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

In January 2024, a called "Tailored Projects Limited" applied to South Dublin County Council for a Section 5 Declaration in relation to the use of Units 64 and 65 of the Cherry Orchard Industrial Estate for displaced persons or persons seeking international protection.

A Section 5 Declaration Application is concerned with determining whether a given set of proposals are exempt from the requirement to obtain planning permission. It is narrowly focused on specific legislative provisions rather than a merits-based planning assessment against policy. There is no requirement to obtain a Section 5 Declaration in advance of undertaking exempted development.

SDCC as Planning Authority made the determination on the 16th of February that the proposed use of the building is exempted development as such does not require planning permission. There have been no subsequent planning/planning-related applications or pre-planning enquiries in relation to these premises.

Following Contributions from Councillor G O’Connell, the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/282/M15/0424 Item ID:83168 – Childcare Services in Lucan**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

The committee hereby requests the Chief Executive to conduct a thorough reassessment of the provision of childcare services in the Lucan area. This motion is prompted by the response to a question tabled during the previous month's meeting, which revealed a concerning trend of more creches closing than opening in the region.

The inadequacy of childcare services poses a significant challenge for residents in the Lucan area, particularly for new residents moving into the Adamstown area. These new residents were promised essential facilities, including childcare services, highlighting the urgency of addressing this issue.

We ask that the Chief Executive provide a statement outlining strategies and initiatives aimed at increasing the availability of childcare services and providers in the Lucan area.

This statement should encompass collaborative efforts with relevant stakeholders, potential policy revisions, and exploration of funding opportunities to facilitate the expansion of childcare facilities.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The content and context of the motion is noted. The approach of the Planning Department to the provision of childcare facilities is set out in the County Development Plan.  
The County Development Plan requires 1 childcare facility providing for 20 places per 75 dwellings in new residential areas in accordance with the Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2001), subject to certain flexibility which may be applied under Circular PL3 / 2016. This is further provided for in COS2 Objective 2 which states:  
‘To continue to work closely with the Health Service Executive, Department of Education and the relevant public bodies and state agencies to meet the necessary provision of primary care centres, childcare facilities, schools, community centres and public open space according to the standards set out in section 8.4.1 of this Plan.’  
The Development Plan also includes objectives on the clustering of community facilities including the following:  
COS2 Objective 4:  
‘To support the clustering of community facilities such as community centres, sports and leisure facilities, schools, childcare facilities and open spaces to create multi-purpose community hubs without negatively restricting the range of services provided in any one centre.’  
The Development Plan notes that pre-school childcare needs are difficult to assess on a long-term basis as the nature of demand evolves over time based on factors such as the population profile of an area, market conditions, government policy and the level of state intervention. Notwithstanding this, there is a recognised need for planned provision in new communities where no infrastructure exists. South Dublin County Council will seek to facilitate the provision of good quality and accessible childcare infrastructure at appropriate locations by combining area-based requirements in new communities with market-led provision in more established areas. Small-scale childcare and early education will be facilitated within residential areas where it is possible to protect residential amenity from potential impacts including noise, traffic and parking issues.

Any change in the planning approach would need to be led by Government policy. SDCC Planning is open to consultation and stakeholder engagement on childcare policy. The Planning Department has engaged with the County Childcare Committee to continue to improve the design and planning of childcare facilities.

In terms of SDCC delivery of childcare, the Community Service Department encourage the incorporation of childcare facilities within the design of our multi-purpose Community Centres, based on the understanding that the provision of a childcare service within local community centres, can enhance and complement the range of other community services offered to local communities. The provision of a childcare space can also be of assistance to help with financial sustainability of the community centre, to assist with the ongoing running costs, with the options existing of either hiring out the childcare space to an anchor tenant or for the childcare service to be run and managed directly by the management of the community centre.

Following Contributions from Councillor L O’Toole, Eoin Burke Senior Planner Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

## **Transportation**

### **LPNC/283/Q7/0424 Item ID:83166 – HGV Policy Review**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell

To ask for a progress report on the HGV Policy review, promised for the last quarter of 2022, and to indicate when it is expected to go out for public consultation and if the Area Committees will have an input before the draft is finalised.

**REPLY:**

The traffic section of SDCC has commenced the HGV policy review.

Technical staff have begun the collection of traffic count data at key locations throughout the county and the locations where existing HGV restrictions are in place are being reviewed to see if the current restrictions remain appropriate.

When the count data is collated and reviewed, the traffic section will have workshop meetings with the elected members to discuss our initial findings.

These workshops with the elected members are expected to take place July 2024.

### **LPNC/284/Q8/0424 Item ID:83172 – Hillcrest Avenue Footpath Repairs**

Proposed by Councillor Joanna Tuffy

To ask for an update on Hillcrest Avenue in relation to the need for footpath repairs 6, 14, 22, 26, 30, 32, 34, 42.

[Q8 Hillcrest Avenue paths](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82490)

**REPLY:**

A considerable amount of work was carried out on Hillcrest Avenue in 2023.

We will inspect the house numbers listed and repaired if required.

### **LPNC/285/Q9/0424 Item ID:82796 – Esker Lawns Footpath**

Proposed by Councillor Joanna Tuffy

To ask the CEO to give an update on slippage on to the footpath of land and debris from the slopes of the woodland at the rear of Esker Lawns

**REPLY:**

We will inspect this slippage and try determine the cause of it. This will enable us to provide a solution to the issue.

[Q9 IMG (i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82110)  
[Q9 IMG (ii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82111)

### **LPNC/286/H12/0424 Item ID:83123 - Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

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

### **LPNC/287/H13/0424 Item ID:83121 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/288/C7/0424 Item ID:83108 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/289/M16/0424 Item ID:82801 – Lucan Bridge Wall Inspection**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

This committee agrees to examine the very low wall section on the southern side of Lucan Bridge, with a view to identifying a suitable measure that addresses public safety concerns.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

Road Maintenance will undertake an inspection of this section of wall to determine if it is compliant with parapet standards.

Any alterations to this structure will need to be agreed with our conservation department as the wall is a protected structure.

Following Contributions from Councillor D Ó'Brádaigh, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/290/M17/0424 Item ID:83029 – 2024 Roadworks Programme**

Proposed by Councillor S. Moynihan, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

To ask the Chief Executive to resurface or repair the laneway area entrance beside (Address Provided) given its dangerous condition and the high amount of foot traffic there.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

This area has been included in the 2024 RWP and we are awaiting a start date from the contractor.

Following Contributions from Councillor S Moynihan, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/291/M18/0424 Item ID:83092 – Additional Public Lighting at ESB Substation at Oakcourt Ave** Proposed by Councillor M. Johansson, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive re-examine the lane at the ESB substation at Oakcourt Avenue for additional lighting, replacement of faulty lights. If additional lighting could be provided at the two locations suggested on the map it would improve safety in the lane.”

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

We have already inspected this laneway and we will commence works to install additional lighting here in the short to medium term.

Following Contributions from Councillor M Johansson, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/292/M19/0424 Item ID:83158 – Newcastle Road Roundabouts vs Junctions**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive, noting continuous complaints about congestion on the Newcastle Road, outlines current best practice in terms of roundabouts versus traffic lights at various retail and residential junctions and indicates what additional measures are being planned to improve flow during and outside peak commuter times in terms of structural changes or light sequencing, noting that TII projections are that congestion will only get worse for longer periods not least because of continued housing development and that credible alternatives to driving are needed for many work and study locations not readily accessible by public transport currently, as well as safer routes to school for those living near this busy corridor.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The vast majority of junctions on the R120 Newcastle Road are traffic signalled junctions. There is a roundabout on the Newcastle Road at the Supervalue shopping centre.

This roundabout has four legs. One from the shopping centre, one from Esker Drive, and the north and south legs of the Newcastle Road.

The peak traffic on the North South and Esker Drive legs occur 08:30 to 09:15 a.m. and at 16: 30 to 17:30 in the evening. The peak traffic on the shopping centre leg generally does not occur at these peak morning and peak evening times. This roundabout works fairly efficiently. There is predominantly north south traffic movements at peak times. There are yellow boxes installed at the roundabout to allow the Esker Drive traffic to enter onto the Newcastle Road.

There are no immediate plans to change this roundabout to a traffic signalled junction.

There are extensive Bus services at the northern section of the Newcastle Road. The L51,L53, C1 and C2 services available on the Newcastle Road or Esker Roads. There is the city centre 52, P29, X25, X26, X2 and X28 services available at the Vesey Park Bus stop.

As development increases, the NTA have committed to increased bus service provision to cater for the higher demand.

In terms cycling schemes along the R120, Cycle South Dublin have no immediate plans for cycling improvements along the route.

In terms of Safe Routes to School funding, Scoil Áine Naofa in Lucan made an application under the programme and were accepted. However, they were not selected under Rounds 1 or 2 but will be included in a subsequent round for delivery of safety improvements.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Gogarty and J Tuffy, John Hegarty Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/293/M20/0424 Item ID:83162 – Palmerstown Heights Footpath Inspections**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

To request that the footpaths in the small estate of Palmerstown Heights be inspected with a view to getting them on the maintenance list as they are in a bad state and have never been repaired since the estate opened in the 90s.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

This area will be inspected and listed for repair if necessary.

Following Contributions from Councillor G O’Connell, the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/294/M21/0424 Item ID:83171 – Bus Service Provision in Adamstown**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

The committee raises the issue of the terminus location that once existed in the Lucan area under the old bus network, pre-Bus Connects, specifically the terminus at Supervalu and Dodsboro.

As the issue of bus service was discussed at last month's meeting, this motion seeks to highlight the removal of the 25 bus service from Dodsboro. The removal of this service has been devastating for the locals in this area, an old part of Lucan.

It is proposed that this matter be added to the list of issues to be raised with the National Transport Authority (NTA). With the removal of some bus services and the relocation of bus terminus, it is requested that a report be prepared outlining the total number of buses that were in place pre-Bus Connects and compare it to the bus services in place since the introduction of the Bus Connects initiative.

The report should also include any planned bus services for the future.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The removal of the 25 Bus service has been raised through workshops between the members and the NTA several times in the recent past. The NTA has responded with comprehensive plans on serving the greater Adamstown area with a Bus network plan. The L51 and L52 remain in place along the Dodsboro road linking to Lucan Village, Blanchardstown and terminating at Adamstown Station. Onward services can be joined at each of the hub points to other areas of the County. Adamstown Station, and Lucan village are key bus hub locations.

There has been a steady rise in the number of services available to commuters in the Adamstown area. The C1 and C2 lines have been rolled out and these frequent city centre service lines significantly improve services to the Adamstown area.

In terms of future services, the members have been briefed in detail about the further plans to extend the C2 service further west in Adamstown as soon as the road network is available to do so.

The NTA have been notified about some buses being full by the time they reach Lucan village, and the capacity issues generally. The NTA have informed SDCC that they are working on providing more buses at peak times to cover the shortfall in capacity.

The further restructuring options of Bus services in Adamstown to take account of the future build out of the Clonburris SDZ area is being examined by the NTA at the moment but no final plans are available for publication at the moment.

Following Contributions from Councillor L O’Toole, John Hegarty Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/295/M22/0424 Item ID:82804 – Healthcare Centre Car Park**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

This committee agrees to work with the HSE to ensure the provision of sufficient and secure car parking facilities for both staff and users, including those requiring disability access to the new primary healthcare centre, to be located at No 1 Adamstown Boulevard.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

SDCC did raise the concern of the lack of car parking provision near the Health centre on several occasions. The developers answers to these queries was that a small number of carparking spaces would be delivered near the Health centre for ambulances and set down, but that the bulk of the car parking would be located at the nearby multi-storey car park in block G of the Adamstown District Centre.

SDCC will support efforts to continue dialogue with the HSE to improve car parking and access to this community facility.

Following Contributions from Councillors D Ó'Brádaigh, John Hegarty Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/296/M23/0424 Item ID:83034 – Road Resurfacing Request for R148 Palmerstown**

Proposed by Councillor S. Moynihan, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

To ask the Chief Executive to resurface the road for people who entering the County from the Circle K Garage on the R148 as far as the junction at the Oval in Palmerstown, as a matter of urgency.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

SDCC have appointed a patching contractor and this section of road is one of the locations listed.

It would be expected that these repairs will be completed in the next six weeks

Following Contributions from Councillors S Moynihan and A Hayes, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **LPNC/297/M24/0424 Item ID:83175 – Airlie Car Park**

Proposed by Councillor L. O'Toole, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

This committee seeks to inquire about the efforts being made to address the sporadic car parking occurring around Airlei Park.

Evidence has shown cars parking on footpaths, green areas, and obstructing pedestrians, including those with buggies. As this park is a newly installed amenity, a solution to rectify this issue before it escalates is necessary. Additionally, the committee requests an investigation into the reasons behind the significant increase in car usage around the park.

This investigation should include determining the number of parking spaces provided within the park and identifying the reasons why cars are parking haphazardly throughout the area.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

There are 54no. spaces + 3no. accessible spaces (57no. total spaces) provided at Airlie Park. The park is provided predominately for the local residents and they have been provided with residential parking throughout the Adamstown SDZ.

Airlie Park is strategically centrally situated to be accessible on foot and by cycle for the residents of Adamstown.

As for visitors from outside the catchment of Adamstown, it is believed that 57no. car parking spaces is sufficient to serve this amenity. It is accepted that there is extra curiosity of about the new facility and this may be leading to extraordinary numbers of visitors at the moment.

As regards illegal parking, the areas around Airlie Park are not officially Taken in Charge, but this situation will change shortly.

When that is completed, SDCC will have greater control to implement measures to curtail illegal parking in the area.

It is believed that these extraordinary numbers of visitors will reduce in time and the provided number of car parking spaces will suffice for this facility.

[M24 Image (i)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82513)  
[M24 Image (ii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82512)  
[M24 Image (iii)](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82511)

Following Contributions from Councillor L O’Toole, John Hegarty Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **LPNC/298/Q10/0424 Item ID:83160 – Library Usage**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty

To ask the Chief Executive to outline membership/usage figure for Lucan, North Clondalkin and Palmerstown libraries/digital hubs for each year of operation during the lifetime of this Council; and if a statement can be made on the matter?

**REPLY:**

Reliable statistics are readily available from 2006 onwards and are attached separately. These statistics record visits to and items issued from Lucan; North Clondalkin and Palmerstown libraries. Also attached are the number of active members from 2016 to present. Registered membership numbers before 2016 are not a reliable measure as this pre-dates the current annual subscription model and so includes those members who may have been inactive for a significant period of time, i.e. in excess of one year. Active membership is measured by County rather than by library branch.

Overall, we can see that a year on year increase in usage was sharply arrested by the Covid-19 Pandemic. We are now seeing steady progress towards recovery to 2019 service usage levels. Only Dublin City and Cork County had higher visitor and issue numbers than South Dublin in 2023, and based on the first 2 months of 2024 we can see our usage continuing to recover.

[Q10 Library Usage LPNC Apr-24](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82556)

### **LPNC/299/Q11/0424 Item ID:82894 – Computer Games in Sout Dublin Libraries**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh

To ask the manager for a list and breakdown of the type of video gaming on loan offer at our public libraries, what percentage of overall software this represents, to outline the rationale for stocking 'video games' (often extremely violent in nature), and to ask what screening measures are in place to ensure any material not suitable for children is not accessed?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin Libraries have included computer games in our lending collection for over 15 years. We currently have a stock of approx. 2,800 games, which amounts to less than 1% of our total collection.

As with DVDs, computer games are categorised by age using the Pan-European Game Information rating and can only be borrowed by library members with the appropriate category of library card, which for all members under the age of 17 requires parental permission.

Access to online gaming in the libraries is restricted by our child security measures in place on our PC’s. The only other access to computer games in the library are limited to hublets which contain games that have been chosen by staff and are not online games beyond the fact that they need the internet to work but have no social element to them. Any console game events are strictly offline as these computers cannot have access to the internet in the branches due to the limitations of the staff Wi-Fi networks.

So, why do we stock computer games?

**Meeting user demands:** We aim to meet the diverse needs and interests of our members. Computer games have gained immense popularity and are a significant form of entertainment and leisure for many people.

**Promoting digital literacy:** Libraries play a crucial role in promoting digital literacy and providing access to technology. Computer games are a part of our digital media and technology offer. By stocking computer games, we provide another way for users to engage with digital technology and enhance their digital skills and literacy. It should be noted also that these games are expensive and so unaffordable to many in our communities. As with other forms of technology, we have a role in closing that digital divide.

**Supporting educational objectives:** Many computer games are designed to be educational or provide valuable learning experiences. Libraries recognise the educational potential of certain games and include them in their collections to support learning and skill development. These games can cover a wide range of subjects, such as history, science, mathematics, problem-solving, and critical thinking. Some examples include flight and farming simulators and Minecraft.

**Promoting social interaction and community engagement:** Multiplayer or cooperative computer games can encourage social interaction and community engagement. When we organise gaming events, tournaments, or clubs where individuals can come together, play games, and interact with like-minded individuals, we do so to promote community engagement, socialisation, and collaboration among our members.

**Broadening cultural and recreational offerings:** Libraries aim to provide a wide range of cultural and recreational resources to engage our members. They broaden the library's collection to include interactive and immersive experiences for users. They form part of a diverse collection of service offerings provided, which includes other technologies (3D printers, magic tables, sensory regulation spaces, etc.) as well as board games, Lego sets, musical instruments. These services are provided in a space where books remain the single largest element of our collection, and they are provided to act both as a gateway to our book collection, and in recognition that our members learn, relax, renew, and interact with each other in different ways. It is our role to provide our communities with those means.

Ultimately, we are here not just to provide educational material but items that people enjoy as well, which is why we’ve stocked DVDs, CDs etc. Games are interactive entertainment.

### **LPNC/300/H14/0424 Item ID:83111 - Library News & Events**

The following report was presented by Rosena Hand Senior Executive Librarian

[H14 Library Event Stats](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82488)  
[H14 LPNC Library Report April](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82487)

Following Contributions from Councillors G O’Connell, J Tuffy and V Casserly, Rosena Hand Senior Executive Librarian Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

**At this point in the meeting, the Chair agreed to suspend Standing Orders to conclude the agenda.**

### **LPNC/301/H15/0424 Item ID:83117 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/302/C8/0424 Item ID:83104 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/303/M25/0424 Item ID:83024 – Street Art and Mural Project**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That this committee calls on the manager to re-examine a street art / mural project under the bridge area on the Adamstown Link Rd, providing costing and supporting the provision of funding allocation for same.

Such a project undertaking can represent Adamstown and its residents, whilst promoting it's multicultural community in a positive and colourful way.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The feasibility of a mural under the bridge in Adamstown was explored win 2023, with a comprehensive budget and feasibility plan submitted. The cost was prohibitive and no provision in in the 2024 budget for this work. With regards to community building and sense of place, the Arts office is working with the Adamstown Youth and Community Centre on their family day on the 17th of August, developing arts programmes that will celebrate the local community. We are also running a summer film camp for 13 – 18 years olds, with a view to embedding the club in the area from September 2024.

Following Contributions from Councillor D Ó'Brádaigh, Meabh Butler Assistant Arts Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

## **Economic Development**

### **LPNC/304/Q12/0424 Item ID:83177 – Silver Bridge**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty

To ask the Chief Executive, given that the restoration and active use of the Silver (Farmleigh) Bridge is an objective in our Development Plan - and in anticipation of hopeful further advances being made by the lead stakeholder Fingal County Council - to outline what discussions have taken place and/or advance plans have been made to facilitate the timely and smooth purchase of the adjacent land on the South Dublin side to provide immediate access for walkers and cyclists when the Bridge is accessible; and if a statement can be made on the matter?

**REPLY:**

South Dublin County Council (SDCC) has maintained strong and regular contact with colleagues in Fingal County Council with regard the works undertaken on the Silver Bridge. As custodians of the bridge, the restoration and future use of the bridge is a matter for Fingal County Council, considering health and safety, financial outlay and ultimate use whilst having regard to significant constraints, in terms of structural, landownership, and finance.

Fingal County Council has informed SDCC that works on the Silver Bridge to preserve and secure it are nearing completion. The bridge structure has been restored, conserved, and lifted back into position while securing the site on both southern and northern banks. Mobilising contractors off site has recently commenced, and it is now envisaged these works will be completed in May.

At this time works do not include reinstatement of a bridge deck, and due to bridge dimensions, it is not feasible as a formal cycling route while the lands around are currently in private ownership, constraining any potential reopening. A structural appraisal has however been carried out and does allow for possible future installation of a 2m wide deck for pedestrian use within the steel structure.

To date Fingal County Council has invested almost €2,000,000 in these works which upon completion will provide an opportunity to re-establish this important Liffey crossing connecting Fingal and South Dublin.

Fingal County Council have proposed a joint feasibility study with South Dublin County Council to explore on the northern and southern sides of the bridge, the options for routing, and land acquisition, as well as further analysis of road safety issues, and cost planning. SDCC will consider this possibility positively and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further with Fingal County Council.

### **LPNC/305/Q13/0424 Item ID:83155 – Silver Bridge**

Proposed by Councillor S. Moynihan

To ask the Chief Executive to consider what tourism development opportunities would arise in the Mill Lane area of Palmerstown once the Silver Bridge is open to pedestrian and cyclist traffic.

**REPLY:**

Fingal County Council is the custodian of the Silver Bridge in Palmerstown. That council has informed SDCC that, at this time, works on the bridge do not include reinstatement of a bridge deck, and due to bridge dimensions, it is not feasible as a formal cycling route while the lands around are currently in private ownership, constraining any potential reopening. A structural appraisal has however been carried out and does allow for possible future installation of a 2m wide deck for pedestrian use within the steel structure.

Fingal County Council have proposed a joint feasibility study with South Dublin County Council to explore the northern and southern sides of the bridge, the options for routing, and land acquisition as well as further analysis of road safety issues, and cost planning. SDCC will consider this possibility and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further with Fingal County Council.

Subject to a satisfactory outcome on this feasibility, Fingal County Council will seek funding for any future works to provide a link and agreed prior to a public planning notice.

Considering the results of any feasibility study, and where possible, SDCC will aim to link routes so that they become compelling, and easily navigable for users. South Dublin County Council will explore tourism opportunities in the Palmerstown area having due regard to the Silver Bridge, walking trails and routes, Waterstown park, the river Liffey, the area’s natural and built heritage and the integration of tourism initiatives with both Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council. The Architectural Conservation Area at Mill Lane has the potential to enhance visitor access and progress connectivity initiatives for sustainable walking routes in this location, whilst adventure activity providers along the Liffey cater for a wide consumer base including corporate groups. The future growth of adventure tourism in South Dublin County will be an important segment of its tourism offering outside of its current operators.

### **LPNC/306/Q14/0424 Item ID:83163 – Silver Bridge Capital Programme**

Proposed by Councillor G. O'Connell

To ask if any progress has been made to bring the land on this side of the Silver Bridge into public ownership given that it was included in the Capital Programme 2023, and it would add impetus to the campaign to get the bridge back into use again.

**REPLY:**

Fingal County Council has informed SDCC that at this time works at the Silver Bridge do not include reinstatement of a bridge deck in which to use to cross the bridge. Furthermore, due to bridge dimensions, it is not feasible as a formal cycling route. The lands around are currently in private ownership, constraining any potential reopening. A structural appraisal has however been carried out and does allow for possible future installation of a 2m wide deck for pedestrian use within the steel structure.

SDCC maintain strong and frequent communications with Fingal County Council with regard the Silver Bridge. Due to the above mentioned constraints, it was considered not prudent to acquire land on the south side landing of the bridge at a time when it’s future use was undetermined.

However, Fingal County Council have proposed a joint feasibility study with South Dublin County Council to explore the northern and southern sides of the bridge, the options for routing, and land acquisition as well as further analysis of road safety issues, and cost planning.

SDCC will consider this possibility and would welcome the opportunity to discuss further with Fingal County Council, subject to funding and planning.

**LPNC/307/H16/0424 Item ID:83239 - Lucan House Update**

This report was presented by Laura Leonard Senior Executive Officer.

[H16 Lucan House Update](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82640)

Following Contributions from Councillors V Casserly, P Gogarty, D Ó’Brádaigh, J Tuffy, S Moynihan, L O’Toole and G O’Connell, Laura Leonard Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the report was **Noted**.

### **LPNC/308/H17/0424 Item ID:83114 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/309/C9/0424 Item ID:83102 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **LPNC/310/M26/0424 Item ID:83025 – St. Ronan's Cresent Green Space**

Proposed by Councillor M. Johansson, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive arrange for the site between (Address Provided) to be turned into a green space with grass for residents. Residents have agreed to maintain and cut the grass if necessary.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

The area between 26 and 27 St. Ronan's Crescent has recently been attended to and cleaned up. The future maintenance and use of the area will be discussed with Public Realm and Community Departments.

Following Contributions from Councillor M Johansson, Laura Leonard Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

## **Performance Change Management**

### **LPNC/311/H18/0424 Item ID:83118 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/312/C10/0424 Item ID:83105 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **LPNC/313/H19/0424 Item ID:83113 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **LPNC/314/C11/0424 Item ID:83101 – Correspondence**

Correspondence For Noting

(i) Response from FCC re item 82764 from March 2024 LPNC ACM

[Corr11 (i) Response from FCC re item 82764 from March 2024 LPNC ACM](http://www.sdublincoco.ie/sdcc/departments/corporate/apps/cmas/documentsview.aspx?id=82562)

The report was **Noted.**

### **LPNC/315/M27/0424 Item ID:82882 – Letter to An Post and the Minister of Communications**

Proposed by Councillor D. Ó Brádaigh, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

This committee agrees to write to both An Post and the Minister for Communications to outline the very severe disruption to postal services being experienced by large swathes of residents in the Lucan area since recent changes have been introduced earlier this year.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

If this motion is passed, a letter in this regard will be issued to An Post and the Minister for Communications on behalf of the local area committee. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

Following Contributions from Councillors D Ó'Brádaigh and P Gogarty, Laura Leonard Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **LPNC/316/M28/0424 Item ID:83159 – Invite to ACM**

Proposed by Councillor P. Gogarty, seconded by Councillor V. Casserly

That the Chief Executive writes to the Luttrelstown Group, owners of significant lands at St Edmundsbury, inviting representatives to the next meeting of the Lucan, Palmerstown, North Clondalkin Area Committee in September to discuss issues of mutual interest and community benefit.

**The following report from the Chief Executive was read:**

If this motion is passed, a letter in this regard will be issued to Luttrelstown Group on behalf of the local area committee. The response, when received, will be circulated to the Members.

This Motion was **Unanimously Agreed and Moved without Debate.**

Councillor V Casserly wished members going forward for election the best of luck, members then congratulated Councillor V Casserly on her year as Cathaoirleach. Laura Leonard Senior Executive Officer on behalf of the staff of South Dublin County Council wished members luck in the forthcoming election. Councillors S Moynihan and V Casserly commended Councillor E O’Brien on his 10 years of public service to South Dublin County Council.

Meeting Concluded at 18:25

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

**An Cathaoirleach**