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

Minutes of South Dublin County Council April 2025 Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8th April 2025 through Microsoft 365 Teams and in Person in the Council Chambers.

## **Councillors Present**

Sarah Barnes

Yvonne Collins

Paddy Cosgrave

Alan Edge

Pamela Kearns

Roisin Mannion

Lynn McCrave

Ronan McMahon

David McManus

Emma Murphy

Justin Sinnott

## **Officials Present**

Senior Executive Officers Mary Maguire, Edel Clancy

Senior Engineers Gary Walsh, John Joe Hegarty

Senior Parks Superintendent Suzanne Furlong

Senior Executive Parks & Landscape Officer Brendan Redmond

Executive Librarian Siobhan Bermingham

Sound Recording Technician Gerry Horan

Administrative Officer Fionnuala Keane

Senior Staff Officer Catherine White

Staff Officer Eimear O’Sullivan

Assistant Staff Officer Eduardo de Oliveira

Clerical Officers Vikki Cryan, Dylan Hayes

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor Pamela Kearns presided.

### **RTFB/136/H1/0425 Item ID:86648 - Minutes**

Minutes of South Dublin County Council Minutes of Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena Area Committee dealing with Corporate, Performance & Change Management, Public Realm, Environment, Water & Drainage, Housing, Community, Transportation, Planning, Economic Development, and Libraries & Arts held on 11th March 2025 which have been circulated, were submitted, and **APPROVED** as true record and signed.

It was proposed by Councillor R McMahon seconded by Councillor P Cosgrave and **RESOLVED** “That the recommendations contained in the minutes of 11th March 2025 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**.”

[H1 Minutes](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85837)

**RTFB/137/0425 – Questions**

It was proposed by Councillor P Kearns, seconded by Councillor P Cosgrave and **RESOLVED** “That pursuant to Standing Order No. 13 that Questions 1 - 6 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED.”**

## **Environment**

### **RTFB/138/H2/0425 Item ID:86665 -New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/139/C1/0425 Item ID:86649 -Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Water & Drainage**

### **RTFB/140/H3/0425 Item ID:86672 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/141/C2/0425 Item ID:86659 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Public Realm**

### **RTFB/142/Q1/0425 Item ID:86631 – Residential Green Space Maintenance**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager to provide a brief overview of the Council's responsibilities for maintaining green spaces in residential estates.

**REPLY:**

The Public Realm Section is responsible for the maintenance of green spaces in residential estates that have been taken in charge by the Council. This includes a range of seasonal and routine operations to ensure these areas are safe, accessible and well maintained. Services provided include mowing of grassed areas during the growing season (excludes grass margins outside of houses), regular litter picking, waste management, hedge cutting and the inspection and upkeep of playgrounds where present. Meadow management is carried out in designated long and short flowering wildflower locations to support biodiversity and pollinators. Tree maintenance including pruning or removal is undertaken as required to address tree health concerns.

### **RTFB/143/H4/0425 Item ID:86670 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/144/C3/0425 Item ID:86657 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/145/M1/0425 Item ID:86744 – Dog Park Equipment**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

**Cathaoirleachs Business**

That this committee calls on the manager to install dog park equipment in the dog run in Tymon Park. The dog run in Tymon is a huge addition to the area and gets a lot of use however, feedback from dog owners suggests that the addition of play equipment would be a huge benefit to the overall health and wellbeing of their pets.

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

The Council will explore the possibilities of installing dog park equipment in the dog run in Tymon Park. If deemed feasible and this area committee agrees, the proposed dog park improvements will be considered for inclusion in the 2026 Public Realm Improvement Works list, which is presented to the ACM in January and noted at the full council meeting thereafter in February.

Following Contributions from Councillor P Kearns, this Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/146/M2/0425 Item ID:86685 – QR Codes Dodder Valley Park**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

This Committee supports the reintroduction of information QR Codes in Dodder Valley Park. Previously there were 10 posts in Dodder Valley Park with QR codes. Scanning the QR Codes brought visitors to a website where you could learn about Flora and Fauna and local points of historical interest.

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

Public Realm is currently tendering for a signage and branding design consultant to carry out a review of signage at Dodder Valley and develop a consistent sign type for Dodder Valley that can be expanded to parks elsewhere in the county. It is intended to include information signs at points of interest in the park and incorporate information on flora and fauna and points of historical interest. Once the consultants are appointed and work is underway the local area committee members will be briefed further on the emerging proposals.

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

### **RTFB/147/M3/0425 Item ID:86740 – Grass Cutting Willbrook Estate**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins

That this Council carries out regular grass cutting at the green areas Willbrook Estate in Rathfarnham and will include the area for maintenance on a regular basis.

In the absence of Councillor Y Collins, this motion **falls**

### **RTFB/148/M4/0425 Item ID:86753 – Low Hanging Branches Grange Road**

Proposed by Councillor D. McManus, Seconded by Councillor P. Kearns

To ask the Chief Executive to inspect and clear back low hanging branches from Grange Road entering Park Avenue estate as low branches impede pedestrians and if a statement is available on the timeline?

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

The area in question was inspected on April 2nd with regard to the reported low hanging branches impeding pedestrians on the footpath.  Pruning works have now been completed at this location to resolve this issue.

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

### **RTFB/149/M5/0425 Item ID:86748 – Big Belly Bin / Solar Bin**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

That this committee calls on the manager to install a big belly bin to replace the current regular bin beside the Astro pitch in Tymon Park.

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

A provision of €100,000 has been made in the 2025 revenue budget for additional litter bin provision similar to the provision of €100,000 in 2024 for the same purpose.  This creates a fund which is to be used to commence the roll out of smart, solar powered compactor litter bins across the county in urban centres and in priority park locations.   Once a plan of action has been drafted and suitable locations identified for the installation of this bin type, the elected members will be fully informed as to how this bin type will be rolled out across the county.  A tender process for the supply and installation of these bins will commence in the coming weeks.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Kearns, E Murphy and R McMahon, Brendan Redmond Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed**.

### **RTFB/150/M6/0425 Item ID:86749 – Tymon Park Boules Court**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

To ask the manager to provide another layer of the appropriate material onto the Boules court in Tymon Park. The has court is a huge success and is used extensively by local groups. however, this means a lot of wear and tear that leaves the surface a bit thin.

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

The Council's Public Realm Section will top up the boules court surface layer as requested here at the Tymon Park facility.  This issue will be checked and monitored in future to ensure that the facility is well maintained for those using it.

Following Contributions from Councillor P Kearns, this Motion was **Agreed.**

## **Community**

### **RTFB/151/H5/0425 Item ID:86660- Deputations for Noting**

Deputations for Noting (No Business)

**RTFB/152/H6/0425 Item ID:86662 - Community Grants - RTFB 2024 Review**

This report was presented by Edel Clancy, Senior Executive Officer

Community Grants - RTFB 2024 Review

[H6 Community Grants Review](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85885)

Following Contributions from Councillors E Murphy, R McMahon and P Kearns, Edel Clancy Senior Executive Officer Responded to queries raised and the report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/153/C4/0425 Item ID:86650 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Housing**

### **RTFB/154/H7/0425 Item ID:86666 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/155/C5/0425 Item ID:86653 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Planning**

### **RTFB/156/Q2/0425 Item ID:86750 – Pedestrian Crossing**

Proposed by Councillor P. Kearns

That this committee calls on the manager to pursue the developer of the planning application SD19A/0371 (permission issued 27th Nov 2019) to install the pedestrian crossing that was part of the grant of permission on this site.

**REPLY:**

The Roads Department continues to liaise with the developer on this matter, with the most recent meeting held w/e 4th April 2025.

The developer is committed to carrying out an agreed programme of works as itemised at the recent meeting in compliance with the condition of Planning Permission and is currently working on re-engaging a contractor to deliver the works.

The related planning enforcement case remains open pending compliance as outlined above.

### **RTFB/157/Q3/0425 Item ID:86684 – Planning Enforcement**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager how many planning enforcement orders are currently in train across the Rathfarnham / Templeogue / Firhouse / Bohernabreena area?

**REPLY:**

There are currently c 105 enforcement files open relative to alleged unauthorised development / planning enforcement matters across RTFB AC area.

These files are all at various stages of process and are dating from March 2020.

### **RTFB/158/H8/0425 Item ID:86669 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/159/C6/0425 Item ID:86656 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Transportation**

### **RTFB/160/Q4/0425 Item ID:86752 – Killininny Road Construction Works**

Proposed by Councillor S. Barnes

To ask the Chief Executive if the following issues have been considered, regarding the construction work on Killininny. Many residents have raised concerns with me regarding construction of the cycle lane which will leave barely enough room for two vehicles to meet. Driving from Old Bawn towards the M50 now requires motorists to drive on dangerous drainage shores every few yards. With the cycle lane the road is now so narrow that the passing traffic must stop and wait until traffic turning right into Oldcourt Avenue gets a break in oncoming traffic. This could take 5 or more minutes at busy times and will cause a massively disruptive build-up of traffic right the way back to Old Bawn Road and beyond. Another issue is that Emergency vehicles might not being able to get past traffic in an emergency due to the narrowness of the road.

**REPLY:**

The 3-metre-wide lanes are a standard width for bus routes, as specified in the Design Manual for Urban Roads & Streets published by Dept of Transport 2014 & 2019, so there is enough room for vehicles to pass each other (for information a large private vehicle such as a Hyundai Tucson is 1.85 metres wide).

The drainage gulleys are constructed to a standard construction detail TII CC-SCD-00512 and are not dangerous to drive on. All of these will be reviewed during the construction project and upgraded if necessary.

Following a number of representations, the Oldcourt junction is currently being reviewed.

The roads are constructed in line with current standards and emergency services had input when these standards were being drafted. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer from the Dublin Fire Brigade visit the site on the nearby Firhouse Road West during when that road was completed and reported that they had no difficulty with the design of that road. There are numerous examples of roads in the county and across the country which are less than 9 metres wide and emergency vehicles routinely navigate them.

### **RTFB/161/Q5/0425 Item ID:86683 – Street Signage Cleaning**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the manager to outline who is responsible for the cleaning of street signage across the Ward and if there is a process which determines when signage is cleaned.

**REPLY:**

Street signage cleaning is predominantly carried out by the Road Maintenance department. There is no programme for cleaning sign, but works are carried out as the need is identified.

If there is a particular issue of concern, please refer the location to us.

### **RTFB/162/H9/0425 Item ID:86673 - Proposed Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads**

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

### **RTFB/163/H10/0425 Item ID:86671 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/164/C7/0425 Item ID:86658 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

### **RTFB/165/M7/0425 Item ID:86712 – Fencing Play Area Anne Devlin Park**

Proposed by Councillor P. Cosgrave, Seconded by Councillor E. Murphy

That this Council provide fencing and hedge along the green area of the new play area at Rosemount, Marian Road /Ballyroan Road and Anne Devlin Park. Residents are fearful that children playing there might be in danger of the traffic on these roads. Fencing like that at proposed seating area outside the Super Value shop would be good.

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

There will be a stage 3 road safety audit carried out as part of the scheme completion, and we will ensure that the play feature area is incorporated into this. This audit will determine if any further measures are required.

Following Contributions from Councillors P Cosgrave, D McManus, E Murphy, L McCrave, R McMahon, and Y Collins, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **RTFB/166/M8/0425 Item ID:86713 – Road Safety Audit Anne Devlin Park**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, Seconded by Councillor R. McMahon

That this Council conducts a Road Safety audit with respect to the new play area between Anne Devlin Park and Ballyroan Road, that it monitors the area for Anti-Social behaviour going forward and it continues to liaise with the nearby homeowners to address their concerns

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

There will be a stage 3 road safety audit carried out as part of the scheme completion, and we will ensure that the play feature area is incorporated into this. This audit will determine if any further measures are required.

We are engaging with local residents to ensure there are no negative impacts by this new amenity

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, E Murphy, P Cosgrave, L McCrave, P Kearns, and R McMahon, Gary Walsh Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the Motion was **Agreed.**

### **RTFB/167/M9/0425 Item ID:86741 – Audible Signal Improvements**

Proposed by Councillor Y. Collins, Seconded by Councillor L. McCrave

That this Council increases the volume of the audible signal on all parts of the pedestrian crossing from the Yellow House to the Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham and the crossing to Rathfarnham Castle Park. As things stand, the low volume of the audible signal on all parts of this crossing makes it virtually impossible for someone who is blind or severely vision impaired to use this crossing independently as they cannot "identify the walk signal" if there is even slight ambient noise, and the low volume of the audible signals on the other side make it impossible to maintain alignment while crossing.

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

Following concerns raised regarding the low volume of audible signals at the pedestrian crossings from the Yellow House to the Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham, and the crossing to Rathfarnham Castle Park, South Dublin County Council arranged for an inspection and adjustment of the signal volume.

**Works Completed:**
Our traffic light maintenance contractor has visited the site and increased the volume of all push button units (PBUs). This adjustment ensures that the audible signals are now sufficiently loud to be identified and followed, even in the presence of ambient noise.

**Outcome and Accessibility Improvements:**
This improvement enhances the accessibility and usability of these crossings for individuals with vision impairments, enabling safer and more independent navigation of the area.

**Reporting Issues:**
Any issues with traffic lights can be reported to **tmc@sdublincoco.ie** for a quick response to faults or further adjustments if required.

**Conclusion:**
The adjustments made should significantly improve the functionality of the crossings for all users, particularly those with vision impairments. South Dublin County Council remains committed to ensuring safe and accessible pedestrian infrastructure for all.

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, L McCrave and E Murphy, John Joe Hegarty Senior Engineer Responded to queries raised and the motion was **Agreed.**

## **Libraries & Arts**

### **RTFB/168/Q6/0425 Item ID:86751 – Public Water Fountain at Ballyroan Library**

Proposed by Councillor J. Sinnott

To ask the chief executive to provide an update on an earlier agreed motion for the installation of a public water fountain adjacent to Ballyroan Library.

**REPLY:**

Libraries Department are currently scoping upgrade works to the outdoor areas of Ballyroan Library. The installation of a public water fountain is being investigated as part of these works. While we are at the early stage of this exercise, we are committed to investing the in upgrade of the space and will update the Area Committee in due course.

### **RTFB/169/H11/0425 Item ID:86647 – Application for Arts Grants**

Application for Arts Grants (No Business)

### **RTFB/170/H12/0425 Item ID:86661 – Library News & Events**

The following report was presented by Siobhan Bermingham Executive Librarian

Library News & Events

[H12 (i) RTFB Library report April 2025](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85762)
[H12 (ii) Library Event Stats](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85764)

Following Contributions from Councillors Y Collins, and P Kearns, Siobhan Bermingham Executive Librarian Responded to queries raised and the report was **Noted.**

### **RTFB/171/H13/0425 Item ID:86374 – Arts Office Report**

The following report was presented by Gerry Horan Sound Recording Technician

Arts Office Report

[H13 Arts programme update](https://meetings.southdublin.ie/Home/ViewReply/85788)

Following Contributions from Councillors P Kearns and R McMahon, Gerry Horan Sound Recording Technician Responded to queries raised and the Report was **Noted**.

### **RTFB/172/H14/0425 Item ID:86667 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/173/C8/0425 Item ID:86654 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Economic Development**

### **RTFB/174/H15/0425 Item ID:86664 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/175/C9/0425 Item ID:86652 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Performance & Change Management**

### **RTFB/176/H16/0425 Item ID:86668 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/177/C10/0425 Item ID:86655 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

## **Corporate Support**

### **RTFB/178/H17/0425 Item ID:86663 – New Works**

New Works (No Business)

### **RTFB/179/C11/0425 Item ID:86651 – Correspondence**

Correspondence (No Business)

Meeting concluded at 16:17pm

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 **An Cathaoirleach**