TERENURE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Minutes, 19th April 2016

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome by Chairman
- 2. Minutes of Last AGM
- 3. Chairman's Report
- 4. Garda Representatives
- 5. Roads and Traffic Officer's Report
- 6. Planning Officer's Report
- 7. Public Representatives and Discussion
- 8. Treasurer's Report
- 9. Election of Officers and Committee
- 10. Election of Honorary Auditors
- 11. Any Other Business

Outgoing Committee

Chairman: Fionnuala Blake, Greenmount Road
Vice-Chairman: Birgit Schmidt, Westbourne Road
Secretaries: Christine Hughes, Rathfarnham Road (meetings); Ann Whelan, Bushy Park Road (correspondence)
Treasurer: John Grant, Wasdale Grove

Committee

Barbara Atkinson, Cormac Terrace Onora Brassil, Beechlawn Mews Leila Byrne, Rathfarnham Road Ben Costelloe, Rathdown Drive Jim Dowling, Lakelands Park Frank Harrison, Westbourne Road RiochMcElinn, Rathfarnham Road Patrick O'Hagan, Rathdown Drive Margaret O'Shea, Bushy Park Road Aaron Trant, Rathfarnham Road Carol Walsh, Templeogue Road

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The annual general meeting of the Terenure Residents' Association was held in St Joseph's Hall, Terenure on Tuesday 19th April 2016, with Fionnuala Blake in the Chair. Seventy-five people attended, including all sixteen committee members, five public representatives and two members of An Garda Siochana.

The public representatives in attendance were ClIrs Anne Feeney (FG), Mary Freehill (Lab), Ruairi McGinley (Ind), Kate O'Connell TD (FG), Claire O'Connor (FF), and Paddy Smyth (FG). Dominic Mac Conraoi (SF) was also in attendance. Apologies were received from Eoghan Murphy TD (FG) and Jim O'Callaghan TD (FF).

The Very Reverend Philip Bradley PP, St Joseph's Church, was also in attendance.

1. Welcome

Fionnuala Blake welcomed everyone present and thanked them for their attendance.

2. Minutes of the AGM, 2015

The minutes of last year's AGM were taken as read and signed.

3. Chairman's report, 2015-2016

The Chairman's report was distributed (see attached). A few additional remarks were made concerning several topics and thanks were given to Terenure Enterprise Centre for facilitating the committee's monthly meetings.

4. Garda Representatives

The AGM was attended by Superintendent Pat Conlon and Sergeant John Duffy. Supt Conlon addressed the meeting and acknowledged the Chairman's work and the effectiveness of the monthly meetings with the Committee's Garda Liaison person. He highlighted the continued theft of cars which is facilitated by leaving car keys on hall tables and urged residents to be aware of the practice of "fishing" for keys through letterboxes. He advised residents, particularly the elderly, to be wary of people calling to the door and attempting to gain access by bogus means. Supt Conlon acknowledged the contribution of the elected representatives and asked them to let the Gardai know of any concerns in the area.

He announced the forthcoming retirement of his colleagues Sgt John Duffy and Gda Tom Kennedy.

Other matters outlined included continuing traffic volumes arising from the traffic light sequence, the number of vehicles and the local geography.

Supt Conlon responded to questions about the replacement of gardai and the number of Garda patrol cars available in the Terenure area.

Sgt Duffy also addressed the meeting, thanking the Association for its good wishes and the Committee's Garda Liaison person for her work.

5. Roads and Traffic

The Roads and Traffic Officer's report was circulated (see attached). A few additional remarks were made concerning the various topics and also the difficulties encountered in obtaining either responses or progress updates. The public representatives were asked to take note of local concerns.

The Chairman stated that the committee's main objective in the coming year would be roads and traffic in Terenure and achieving a meeting on site with the head roads engineer from DCC. Responses from Cllrs McGinley, Freehill and Smyth respectively referred to shortages of traffic engineers, the need for co-operation between elected representatives, official and residents, and solutions to "rat running".

6. Planning Report

The Planning Officer's report was circulated (see attached) and a few additional remarks were made. The Officer outlined his role, stated that there had been very few applications relating to our area in recent weeks and advised the meeting that the Committee does not object to applications unless approached to do so.

7. Public Representatives

Cllr McGinley (Ind) stated that he was willing to work with the Committee on traffic matters. He informed the meeting about development of the tennis courts at Bushy Park, noting that DCC is seeking an external operator. He also outlined the proposed upgrading of the band stand and setting up of tea rooms, as well as stating that the park is underused at present. He also referred to the local area plan for Terenure which is part of DCC's Development Plan (2016-2022), which builds on the previous plan.

Cllr Feeney (FG) expressed to the Association her delight at being selected to represent the area. She noted the concerns about traffic in the area and invited members to contact her about matters of interest.

Cllr O'Connor (FF) similarly noted the traffic concerns and indicated that she would work with DCC officials to address matters.

Mr Mac Conraoi (SF) thanked the Association for inviting him to attend and commented on the Gardai's remarks about "fishing" for car keys, adding that drivers should keep their cars locked while driving. He advised that he would ask the Lord Mayor Críona Ní Dhálaigh (SF) to arrange for a traffic engineer to come to Terenure. He referred to arrangements for the collection of leaves on Monday mornings (the same day as for bin collections).

Ms O'Connell TD (FG) advised that she would be able to facilitate local organisations to visit Leinster House.

Cllr Freehill (Lab) commented on the numbers present at the AGM and welcomed the two new councillors. She suggested a local area traffic examination and meetings with the Committee every four months. She then referred to the serious economic implications for Ireland if the UK were to leave the EU and urged all present to canvass any contacts in the UK.

Cllr Smyth (FG) outlined a motion he had made submitted about linear parking along Fortfield Road as an alternative to parking on Greenlea Road and Grove. He referred to a meeting in May between DCC engineers and Dodder Action Group in relation to the Dodder Greenway which will be followed by a public meeting at a later date.

From the floor

Comments were made in relation to new building developments (see the Planning Officer's report) and how these will lead to more traffic in Terenure, the possibility of health problems and accidents and access difficulties for ambulances. A resident from Terenure West Residents' Association (TWRA) voiced various concerns about the impact of the proposed development of the VEC Grounds on Templeogue Road and access via Greenlea Road. Cllrs Freehill and McGinley respectively stated that the VEC (now the Education and Training Board) had no plans at present to hand over the grounds to DCC and that was a demand for all-weather pitches in the area. A TRA resident from Olney commented on her experience of parking when events are held in the VEC grounds rather than in Bushy Park. The Chairperson undertook to share information about any developments with TWRA.

8. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report (attached) was distributed. The Treasurer noted that income from subscriptions was down on the previous year. It was noted that the current annual subscription has been €5.00 since 2002. An increase in the rate may be considered at the next AGM.

Non-Agenda Item

With the agreement of the Chairman, committee member Mr McElinn addressed the floor on the matter of freehold and the acquisition of same from the Shaw Estate. Cllr McGinley pointed out that the Property Registration Authority was the competent authority in relation to land title matters.

9. Election of Officers and Committee

The following were re-elected to the committee, having been duly proposed and seconded:

- Chairman: Fionnuala Blake; Vice-Chairman: Christine Hughes; Joint Secretaries: Carol Walsh and Ann Whelan; Planning: Jim Dowling; and Treasurer: John Grant.
- **Committee:** Barbara Atkinson, Onora Brassil, David Byrne, Leila Byrne, Ben Costelloe, Ciaran Hancock, Frank Harrison, Rioch McElinn, Patrick O'Hagan, Margaret O'Shea, Birgit Schmidt and Ann Whelan.

10. Election of Honorary Auditors

Niall Byrne and Company were proposed and seconded as the honorary auditors of the Association's accounts.

11. Any Other Business

- Margaret O'Shea commented on building development work on Bushy Park Road and the impact this is having on parking and egress from driveways.
- Mary Long expressed concern about protracted diversion of the 15B bus route from Earlsfort Terrace, to which Cllr Freehill responded about general concerns about the lack of public transport (buses) around St Stephen's Green.
- Gerry McDonagh expressed his appreciation for the Committee's work.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed and refreshments were served.