

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)
&
Sandymount Tidy Towns Community Association (STTCA)

Notes from Joint Committee Meeting dated 19 February 2020

Attendees:

- SAMRA : David Turner, Joan MacArthur, Lorna Kelly, Paddy Dunne; Niall McElvoy
- STTCA : Rita Collins, Ros Moran, Sheila Mooney, Phil Keogan, Vincent Ryan, Mary Ryan
- **1. Meeting Overview**
- The different roles of SAMRA and STTCA working for the single Sandymount community was discussed and recognised at the outset. It was very clear that there was a real appetite to help each other in this regard, if items can be identified.
- The meeting was very cordial with a free flowing discussion and good exchange of views and ideas on a range of issues were floated.
- SAMRA and STTCA overviewed their respective organisations, Aims and ways of working and it followed on to explore learning and insights around :
 - Similarities
 - Differences
 - Overlaps
 - New Projects/Ideas
 - Common Areas of Interest

2. Particular Areas of Common Interest Emerging

- **Dublin Bay Biosphere** – the uniqueness of this to Dublin, Ireland was discussed and the fact that the issues related to this should not be just considered as local resident affairs.
- **Sewage management** and the continuous blight on the otherwise beautiful area
- **Martello Tower** – making use of this iconic building and landmark to community benefit
- **Flood Defence critical / home insurance**
- **'Adopt Your Own Front Gate'** – message to residents

3. New Projects and Ideas

1. **Village Notice Boards** (JOINT for SAMRA and STTCA) – electronic. Considered as a feasible, highly visible option which could potentially be readily implemented, in conjunction with DCC's Heritage Standards, utilising the existing public phone site and power supply.
2. **Martello Tower** – the current status of communications with the owners between SAMRA and DCC was discussed : How to bring this historic building to life for the community? would the current owner permit community use? eg cultural, arts centre, sea scouts, astronomy, even a restaurant – is there some formula whereby such a marriage could work, with possible funding from Covanta
3. **Leverage from Biosphere Messaging** – agreed that this is probably an understated opportunity area where if done more effectively or increased focus that this could be used to reinforce many other otherwise stranded actions that are currently in play
4. **Village Community Centre** – much needed and elusive but could something be generated as an integral part of the Roslyn Educate Together School dev plan, which may have synergy with student/school activities anyway.

5. Summary Actions

- It was agreed to develop the above ideas further and present them as common supported item to the planned forthcoming SAMRA meeting with TDs and Councillors
- STTCA email : sandymounttt@gmail.com; marygryan7@gmail.com
- Request copy of DCC gulley cleaning schedules to STTCA : Action DT

Thank you to Paddy Dunne for setting up & all attendees - for this inaugural exchange !

Date of Next Meeting: xx May

FOR POSTING

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