

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)

Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 12th October 2020

Attendees: David Turner (Chair), Joan MacArthur (Treasurer), Irene Duffy Lynch, Paddy Dunne, PJ O’Gorman, Liam Handy, Niall McElroy

Apologies: Dara Lynne Lenehan; Lorna Kelly; Stephen Hurley, Eva Lloyd

Welcome and Introductions

- DT welcomed the Committee and gave an overview of the agenda.

Strand Road Cycle Trial

- **DT – status update :**
 - DCC Public Consultation Report issued 8th October
 - Trial Modelling Analysis and Traffic Data Report
 - SAMRA letter issued to DCC CEO; 11/10; outlining SAMRA’s revised position
 - SEAC meeting 12/10 – all Councillors have agreed to assess and give full consideration to the modified STC version 3 and to supply a written report within 7-10 days
 - Commitment to establish a Community Forum, chaired by Lord Mayor of Dublin
 - SAMRA Meeting has been arranged with Owen Keegan and Brendan O’Brien 4pm 13th October – to discuss SAMRA’s positioning and letter contents, further endorsing the “off-road” option and rejecting the DCC proposal.
 - The key issue is the ability to engineer a solution to the Merrion Gates constraint, which it is believed to be possible. (ie Traffic v cycle differentiated signalling eg Dunlaoghaire, Batchelors Walk)
 - The key challenge is to steer and persuade DCC CEO of this as the selected routing for the greater benefit of whole SE area and Sandymount
 - Join the DCC Consultation Hub and per DL advise to use to best effect as “open conduit” to the engineers
 - Forthcoming DCC CEO /SAMRA Meeting : representatives DT/NMcE/IDL

Other SEAC Meeting Outcomes :

- Construction of 2 pedestrian traffic crossings at Sandymount Green and a zebra crossing will start w/c 21st October
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Planning Update : N McElroy

- **Irish Water Waste Treatment Plant** – IW have lodged a PA for an area between the incinerator and nature reserve. Original planning approval requires this land to be returned to it’s original “Wetland Condition” Observation to be lodged incorporating this requirement Action : LK

Archiving - PJO

- City Archivist has given a seemingly positive response, with a commitment to come back with a proposal

Treasury Update

- General discussion over future expected cash calls and the need for trimming costs, where possible. Current funds remain positive but sources have been limited due to the lack of Community Events. Agreed to hold on a cash call until need is better defined.
- General consensus for SAMRA fee structure to be significantly increased – future agenda item

Website Update - DT

- The Committee recognises that the SAMRA website requires some essential updates, many of which have been deferred due to recent priorities. Some are in progress at the time of the meeting and some will require further scoping and agreement on costs with both 121Computer Services and the website designer.
- It was agreed, there is a conversation and future agenda item required to discuss how to proceed with SAMRA's needs for virtual image projection and communication needs forwards. It was generally agreed that the website provides as the "Corporate Image" and a good foundation for essential documents, requiring membership transparency but that there is a need for a more instantaneous means to connect membership on rapidly changing events eg WhatsApp
- Future agenda item to be organised to address the communication needs of SAMRA
- Overall, it was agreed that as a first step, website updating was required to make it more relevant, less complex and current. Access to 121IT Computer Services and website designer will be needed and used to make these changes.
- Endorsement to the quoted Fees and expected timing.

AOB

- Website update costs endorsed
- It was agreed that SAMRA needs to recruit a member with responsibility and capability for website/facebook updates, to enable cut-out of costs and ability for rapid updates of posts.
- Explore AGM via Zoom
- Future Agenda item : fee review
- Future Agenda item : Membership drive

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: proposed Monday 26th October 7:30

SAMRA Actions Log

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting			
1.	Summarise the Committee's majority position regarding Covid 19 temporary measures and send a note to the Councillors	DT	Closed – note sent 21 July
2.	Prepare and circulate draft newsletter to members ahead of the Summer break	SH	
3.	Explore new planning applications and come back to the Committee with recommendations	EL and Planning Sub-Group	
4.	Send a note to the Committee summarising current thinking on DCC development plan and the work needed to progress a SAMRA response	EL	Closed – note circulated 22 July
5.	Send thank you note and set up meeting with Jessica Handy on archiving proposal	DT	Note sent 23rd July awaiting JH response
Ongoing Actions			
6.	Identify possible candidates to carry out archiving	All	Jessica Handy proposal submitted, with follow up meeting to take place
7.	Prepare a draft response to the Lea Crescent resident who raised a planning concern	LK and EL	
8.	Prepare draft observations in relation to the application near Enable Ireland	EL and NMCE	
9.	Prepare and send response to Elm Park residents	EL and DT	Sent 22/06 and cc'd all. CLOSED
10.	Circulate copy of SAMRA Constitution to Committee members	SH	Closed - Sent 19 June
11.	Prepare and circulate list of SAMRA subgroups	SH	Circulated on 20 July
12.	DCC updates on Irishstown Nature Park signage, new North Dublin wastewater treatment plant, protected status of Tram Sheds	DT / local councillors	Update sent by DT to Committee members w/c 8 June

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
13.	Write to owner of Martello Tower requesting visit for SAMRA	DT / local councillors	Update provided by Dermot Lacey w/c 8 June.
14.	Engagement regarding Poolbeg Incinerator	TBC	No progress to report. Potential future actions: EPA meeting / review Notifiable Incidents report
15.	Contact Martello Tower owner to explore future plans	SH / DT	Outstanding action, awaiting progress report from Councillors..
16.	Follow up directly with any remaining lapsed members	JMacA	Ongoing. Lapsed members list sent by SH
17.	Invite Dublin Bay South TDs to SAMRA meeting following upcoming General Election	DT	Ongoing, awaiting Covid developments and government formation talks
18.	Research previous survey by Irish Rail regarding level crossings	LK	Ongoing
19.	AVIVA Funding application	DT	Hon Sec -AVIVA Stadium Community Committee : "Fund has agreed to provisionally award you a grant of €2,300 towards IT project: database and archive." NOTE : Conditional on following Covid-19 guidance in all activities associated with this project. Sub-group to now take this forwards. Complete and invoice later. CLOSED
20.	Raise awareness regarding Ectocarpus on Sandymount Strand	Roisin Kelly	SAMRA endorsed proposal (now on the website) is currently with Hazel Chu, who is coordinating with the various responsible bodies
21.	Push for container removal on Sandymount Strand, improve general state of disrepair of promenade	DT	Covered in detail with pictorial evidence Councillors meeting in September 2019
22.	Research upcoming Dublin City Development Plan to understand topics and timescales	EL	EL spoke with DCC (Sharon Vinci) on 11/2 and the City Development plan 2022 goes through 4 phases, some are open to the public / groups for comments, each window for submissions is 4-8 weeks depending on the phase. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 Expected August 2020: "Issues" - Public invited to submit Issues - will be advertised in the media. Phase 2 - Pre Draft Phase 3 - Draft Phase 4 - Material amendments

No.	Action	SAMIRA Lead	Latest Status
23.	Check the capacity of the Sandymount Hotel in preparation for the next AGM	JMacA	Oaklands suite 80 Conference but 120 Insurance Max
Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)			
24.	Expore potential Community Art Project for Victoria Baths	DT	Discussions concluded with SUBSET regarding non-suitability of Victorian Baths. Other opportunities to be considered CLOSED
25.	Lobby in relation to Merrion Strand Traffic	SH	Letter sent to the new Garda Superintendent, expressing concerns regarding the deteriorating situation, in particular regarding the frequency of heavy lorries and the need for enforcement against existing rules. Garda attendance at AGM
26.	Submit response to Bus Connects consultation	SH	Submission made to consultation, monitoring in progress
27.	Confirm status of Preservation Order St John's Church Hall	SH	Confirmed it's not on DCC list of protected structures
28.	Arrange slot for the rest of the Committee to meet with candidates	DT	COMPLETED: meeting held on 10/2
29.	Send an email to those lapsed members with email addresses asking them whether they would like to re-join	SH	COMPLETED: Email sent on 7/2
30.	Submit nomination for Waste to Energy Community Gain Committee	DT	COMPLETED
31.	Contact Dermot Lacey regarding Jack Torpey Award	DT	COMPLETED
32.	Write to DCC asking to be kept informed of any updates regarding Roslyn Park planning application	SH	COMPLETED: Email sent by SH to Claire Owens (Planning Officer) on 11/2