

## **Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)**

### **Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

**Attendees:** David Turner (Chair), Joan MacArthur (Treasurer), Lorna Kelly, Irene Duffy Lynch, Paddy Dunne, PJ O’Gorman, Liam Handy, Niall McElroy; Stephen Hurley (Secretary)

Apologies: Dara Lynne Lenehan; Eva Lloyd

#### **Welcome and Synopsis**

- DT welcomed the Committee and gave an overview of the agenda. Since the previous meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> October, as a brief synopsis :
  - 12<sup>th</sup> October Meeting minutes modified and adopted
  - DCC CEO meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> October regarding the proposed DCC Cycle and Traffic re-routing trial
  - Letter/Meeting minutes posted 14<sup>th</sup> October to website
  - Mailshot to ALL members (247) directly forwarding the posted Letter/DCC Meeting minutes 17<sup>th</sup> October
  - Membership listing sent out on a **CONFIDENTIAL** basis to ALL Committee Members
  - Sub-Group created to deal with the increased volume of the DCC Cycle/Traffic Re-routing proposal, now led by Niall McElroy, supported by D Turner and Irene Duffy Lynch
  - Committee Member Dara Lynn step down with thanks, apologies and best wishes for the future to SAMRA. SAMRA offers thanks Dara Lynne for her support and wishes her well for the future.

#### **Strand Road Cycle Trial**

- **DT/NMcE – status update :**
  - Sub-Group set up and “Cross-Group” collaboration has been initiated by SAMRA with the constituent bodies – establishing this as a Consultation/Collaboration Group with regards to the DCC proposal for the Strand Road Cycleway and Traffic Re-routing.
  - SAMRA has established the sub-group to be led by Niall McElroy, supported by DT and Irene Lynch to permit increased focus across the wide area of activities and communications which have developed
  - This is all as described in a summary document now circulated to SAMRA Committee Members
  - The objective of this group was re-discussed, which is to enable the various bodies to collaborate with information and action sharing and strategic direction concerning the proposed Strand Road cycle-way, through Sandymount
  - Meeting with DCC CEO, Owen Keegan; DCC Covid Mobility Manager, Brendan O’Brien – with SAMRA rejecting the current DCC proposal and supporting a modified STC “Off-Road” Alternative Plan, due to the associated wide adverse traffic impacts across and through the region
  - DCC to respond within 7-10 days, not yet received
  - Councillor and Lord Mayor Hazel Chu is attempting to set up a meeting with the sub-group
  - Efforts to escalate our advocacy on the political side to a higher level trying to achieve face to face meetings are ongoing eg Jim O’Callaghan

- Discussion proceeded to consider possible next steps in the event of DCC rejection of the STC Alternative Plan, which is currently being reviewed by DCC and Councillors :
  - STC have reportedly received approx 700 pledges of support from their petition and discussion ensued how to widen that support. *It was noted that the STC link and petition had been the subject of the mail shot already sent to all SAMRA members.*
  - It was reported that the STC group are proceeding with a further leaflet campaign. SAMRA agreed not to do so at this point, as it would cause duplication and confusion
  - It was also noted of a similar reach-out to the LLTC and RDS organisations to request their membership awareness and provide them with petition proformas for STC
  - Engagement with National Media was recommended, with development of reporter relationships as being important, to start to develop a profile and ready media contact base
  - Drafting of a “SAMRA Media statement” was agreed to be crucial, to prevent the mis-representation of SAMRA. These principles were agreed to include :
    - Support for Increased SAFE access to cycling through Sandymount
    - Support to the National Covid19 Response Plan
    - Support to Irish Climate Change objectives
    - Rejection of the DCC “On-Road” solution due to the region wide negative impact traffic chaos which will result
  - It was reported that STC are requesting Senior Council seeking formal Legal Opinion
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#### Planning Update : N McElroy

- **Nothing to report**

#### Archiving - PJOG

- We seem to have the outline of a good solution for the archiving of Lorna’s material, kindly offered by Lorna to SAMRA
- A reminder that the objective was “To identify a suitable archive repository who would review, catalogue and archive the material, ensuring that it would be available to SAMRA and the general public, during normal working hours”
- Following receipt of reply from Dr Mary Clarke, City Archivist, Dublin City Library & Archive, it was reported that all of SAMRA’s main objectives have been met, including the issue of costs. The proposal has been previously outlined in more detail and circulated for comment.
- Further questions were raised on the issue of long term ownership and copywrite and can be summarised to be :
  - What is the timeframe for completion of the work.
  - Any material that is not being archived must be returned to SAMRA (for Lorna’s use)
  - SAMRA require a structure that will allow them full access to the material and the freedom to use it for their own use as they see fit.

A reply will shortly be made clarifying around these points

#### **Treasury Update**

- Agreed action by DT to re-clarify status on AVIVA grant and potential SAMRA funding needs
- New memberships have been received, this to be brought up to date, integrating Paypal and paper-based receipts. – Action DT

#### **AGM Preparation**

- Date of AGM set for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January
- A quorum to be >30 as per the Constitution
- AGM to be run via ZOOM meeting, for which a new account will be required for the anticipated numbers Action SH to advise on requirements

#### **AOB**

- N/A

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: proposed Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 7:30**

**SAMRA Actions Log**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>SAMRA Lead</b>	<b>Latest Status</b>
<b>New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting</b>			
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 23 <sup>rd</sup> July awaiting JH response
<b>Ongoing Actions</b>			
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 Irishtown 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"> <li>Phase 1 Expected August 2020: "Issues" - Public invited to submit Issues - will be advertised in the media.</li> <li>Phase 2 - Pre Draft</li> <li>Phase 3 - Draft</li> </ul> Phase 4 - Material amendments

No.	Action	SAMRA 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
<b>Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)</b>			
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