

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)

Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 11th January 2020

Attendees: David Turner (Chair), Joan MacArthur (Treasurer); Stephen Hurley (Secretary); Lorna Kelly (p/t), Irene Duffy Lynch, Paddy Dunne, PJ O’Gorman, Liam Handy, Niall McElroy; Eva Lloyd (p/t)

Apologies: None

Welcome and Synopsis

- DT welcomed the Committee and gave an overview of the agenda. **This particular meeting was time pressured due to an urgent follow-on meeting request with Sandymount Cycle Groups and some items will necessarily be picked up at the following meeting**

Strand Road Cycle Trial

- **NMcE – status update :**
 - Submission of detailed questions to DCC for answering in writing before the 2nd Consultation Forum 7th January
 - 14th December SEAC Meeting when DCC proposed to Councillors mitigation options which included a 2nd internal cycleway, a re-routed bus route etc. This was in response to representations to alleviate safe cycling within the village area. The general conclusion was that this would seriously exacerbate the disruption to Sandymount internal traffic.
 - DCC Answers received to SAMRA questions on 4th January – which were considered to be high level and superficial, not giving the assurances or criteria requested
 - 2nd Consultation Forum on 7th January : SAMRA expressed serious concern about the size of the group (22 members) and the inability to make meaningful progress on the issues. Additionally, they advised that they did not have adequate answers to the questions asked. SAMRA requested that this now be considered and minuted. DCC agreed with this difficulty and to look for a way to resolve this, accepting that the CF was not making the progress that was intended.
 - STC and the other resident groups issued a statement at the CF, with SAMRA support, to seek adjudication with An Bord Pleanala under Schedule 5, with regards to the exemption of the cycle route. This submission will be made within the next 2 weeks for ABP ruling and the statement advised the DCC should delay the Consultation Forum and start of cycle route works pending this ruling. It was considered that the scale of the perceived disruption to the area justifies this ruling requiring formal planning process. DCC will determine their response in the interim whilst the ABP adjudication is made.
 - 10th January SEAC meeting : 4 out of 5 Councillors supported and had passed an Emergency Motion to request Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan and NTA to reconsider the 2015 plan to construct an “off-Road” cycle path to avoid the large scale traffic disruption from diverted traffic.
 - DCC made it clear at the 2nd Consultation Forum that ban on HGVs to the whole area on a basis of 4 axle+ and 24/7 is an available mitigation measure.
 - Letter from SAMRA sent directly to Minister Eamon Ryan, 9th January requesting his intervention, as per his undertaking at the previous meeting with SAMRA dated 30th November. The request is to develop an Off-Road Strand Road solution for passage of cyclists through Sandymount

- Letter + SAMRA position and strategy posted to the samra.ie website
- **SAMRA positioning – DT**
 - The situation is coming to a head as we approach the DCC declared Cycle Trial start date and further SAMRA Committee interaction is likely to be required at short notice as DCC response to resident resistance becomes clear and this develops.
 - In terms of strategy, the SAMRA position is declared and available on the website. There is declared broad support for an “Off-Road” solution and support continues to be given to other resident pressure groups where SAMRA is able, with respect to the declared strategy BUT SAMRA will retain independence, as any escalation of response occurs - such independent action remains possible.

AGM Preparation

- AGM set for 18th, currently 54 registrations and 4 out of 5 Councillors have confirmed availability as panellists
- Village Green Banners have been prepared and are in place
- Draft AGM package and inputs requested to the Secretary by Wednesday 13th by close of business
- Further Mailshot and FaceBook update to be issued Action DT
- Committee election : all remaining on the Committee for continued SAMRA support. Position of secretary to be worked from within the Committee. Proforma to be updated for endorsement at the AGM.
- Invitation to An Garde Siochana – Action S Hurley
- Protocol for AGM :
 - Format – Zoom call; pre-registration; advance questions to be submitted into the Chat Room and Stephen to “MC”; no on-line voting
 - Membership fee updates : effective 1st February, will be covered in Chair address
- REQUEST :Committee to Gather on line at 7:00 pm 18th January

SAMRA Strategic Development : to be drafted further and discussed with SAMRA 2021 business as a key priority

Planning Update :

- **New Business : LK**
 - Concern expressed regarding a proposed development application for 40 Park Avenue. Review is required by planning sub-committee with a potential submission date of 20th January. Action : Eva Lloyd to review with LK and copy a draft across the Committee for comment and reference against SAMRA’s planning principles. Action : Eva Lloyd/LK
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- **Roslyn Park School**
 - An Bord Pleanala deliberations are ongoing
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- **Strategic Housing Development (SHD)** – Document previously forwarded from Eglinton Road and Richview Residents Association, seeking review and endorsement by SAMRA
 - No Update available Action : Eva Lloyd
- **Dublin Port Development Plan - LK**

- No update available. Action : EL to work with LK and circulate a proposed letter to the Committee

Archiving – PJOG – *no further update available at this meeting*

- Assessment of Jessica Handy costs Action PJOG
- Linkage to AVIVA funding grant Action DT

AOB

1. **ACTIONS LOG to be updated and reinstated**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: tbc Monday 25th January 2021 7:30

