

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)
Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 9th May 2022

Attendees: David Turner (Chair/interim Secretary), Joan MacArthur; Niall McElroy; Liam Handy; PJ O’Gorman; Irene Duffy Lynch; Jeremy Humphries (Treasurer) (Zoom); Margaret Brindley; Karl Anderson

Apologies: Stephen Hurley; Lorna Kelly; Michael Duncan; Mark Wheeler; Paddy Dunne; Kristin Hadfield (Zoom);

Welcome and Agenda Overview – Chair

- Paddy Dunne has announced his retirement from the SAMRA committee. A huge thank you is due to Paddy for his service and support to SAMRA over many years. To be concluded later.

- **AGM OVERVIEW**

- The 60th Anniversary AGM was concluded successfully, completing the AGENDA
- A HUGE thank you to the committee for their preparation and work.
- 85+ Attendees
- Well represented by Public Representatives from across the parties and the An Garda Síochána Policing Unit from Donnybrook and Irish Town
- Sandymount TT were represented
- Highlights :
 - Treasurers Report endorsed with public proposers and seconders
 - Proposed Committee expansion for 2022 to 20 endorsed
 - SAMRA Committee for 2022 endorsed
 - Pre-AGM survey completed with 93 respondents and overviewed
 - 45 Minutes for facilitated Discussion Q&A
 - 13 Offers of additional support to be followed up
 - Membership Status discussed and requests made of membership to complete their subscription status following migration to digital over the Covid period and lack of 2021 AGM
 - 60th Anniversary wishes, flowers and thank yous to founder member Lorna who could not attend in person at the AGM
 - AGM LEARNINGS – for future
 - Slide material – too much information
 - Larger screen
 - Pre-issue AGM slide pack to feed Q&As
 - Smaller front table – less presenters
 - Lectern for the future
 - Concentrate for future on higher level messages with detail to come through Q&As
 - Quarterly touch points with committee/members
 - More surveys – excellent introduction
 - A thank you to the Sandymount Hotel for their excellent support and for the hosting of the AGM

BY SUB-COMMITTEE

For Issue

Community Sub-Committee – Coordinator tba

- **Community FUN DAY** – Margaret Brindley (Lead)
 - 22nd May 2-5pm
 - **ALL assigned HELPERS to meet at 1pm on the Village Green**
 - Full details being coordinated live via Google-sheet INPUTS requested **Action : ALL**
 - Detailed discussion to close main role gaps – completed **Action ALL to review**
 - Detailed discussion to outline the programme
 - Publicity Mailshot with FUN DAY newsletter to all members - **Action DT**
 - Close-out of Race Prize contributions – **Action ALL**
 - Publicity – Twitter account to be resurrected and utilised – **Action Karl A**
 - ALL offers of help were netted and assigned across the gaps
 - 3rd Party Liability Insurance for SAMRA has been concluded. Shared with TT with payment on a 1/3 basis to SAMRA.
 - Copy of Insurance policy to be provided to Margaret – **Action DT**

Planning &Development Update : NMcE

- **Planning Applications** - none this month warranting SAMRA's involvement
- **Poolbeg West SDZ** - concerns about compliance with EU Directives regarding the local SACs and SPAs
 - no response to SAMRA's queries in this regard to the National Parks and Wildlife Services, the responsible body. They appear to be unwilling to advise us regarding the content of any communications between them and ABP at Planning Application stage.
 - as an alternative, SAMRA has written to both the DDPA and Future Analytics, Stephen Purcell (who wrote SAMRA's submissions re Roslyn Park) asking for advice as to whether the SDZ Planning process as carried out by ABP would have adjudicated on compliance of the SDZ Planning Scheme with these EU Directives.
- **Glass Bottle Project** - SAMRA has written to the developer asking for a design and construction status update, the status of their appointment of an Environmental and Biodiversity Officer including a request that the Officer would actively engage with SAMRA in relation to SAC and SPA matters adjoining the site, and their understanding of the road and transport infrastructure that is to serve the site.
- **Dublin Port 3FM Expansion Plans** - nothing to report

Flood Risk Sub-Committee : SH

- A formal Letter of response needs to be sent to DCC : with positioning by the will of the committee :
 - **Flood Defences** : Requesting expediting of the Phase 1 works – ongoing delays are not acceptable
 - **Raw Sewage to the Merion Beach** - Requesting DCC to respond to the serious Public Health Hazard caused by over-flow of raw sewage which now occurs at each and every overflow event onto Merrion Beach at an expected frequency of 3-4 per annum. This matter raised strong reverberations across the committee who believe that a different approach now needs to be taken to gain greater commitment from DCC to clean-up, whilst the system design progresses to ensure that a serious Public Health incident cannot occur **Action : Sub-Committee**

Transport and Access Sub-Committee – DT

- **Pedestrianisation –**
 - The pedestrianised area requires a greater level of INPUT to be made by DCC to make the space more attractive and be fully utilised. It's great that the trial is happening again but they need to think more long term, see e.g. some of the thoughts on this conversation thread
 - https://twitter.com/padsmyth/status/1520437871173324801?s=20&t=v_fs-L8P3XJnR72GFixg8g
 - **Action : DT to write to DCC**

- **Strand Road Traffic –**
 - As discussed at the AGM, there are now increasing number of “Not in Service” buses travelling at speed down Park Avenue and through the Village. **Action : DT to write letter to Councillors requesting removal from this route.**

Heritage & Natural History Sub-Committee – DT (interim coordinator)

- Letter from Tony Jordan requesting SAMRA to take over future “YEATS DAYS” which are held annually on the Village Green (11th June in 2022)
- AGREED for 2022 to be the transition year, run by Tony Jordan
- **Action 1 : Irene** to make contact to become the handover point on the SAMRA committee
- **Action 1 : DT** to write to Tony Jordan to explain this plan,.

Membership / PR/ Media /Secretarial Sub Committee – DT

- Kristin Hadfield has joined the Membership SC led by PJ. Sub-Committee now comprises PJ / KH / LH / DT
- An interim update of Membership data available since the AGM now encouragingly reveals 187 members to be fully subscribed with transition still ongoing. ALL updates at and since the AGM have now been incorporated into the database.
- The geographical plotting of Members and Sub-Committee carried out by Kristin has been copied across the Committee for review. This will inform decisions and targeting needed in the quest to expand SAMRA membership levels.

Environment Sub-Committee – No Report Available

AOB

- **In response to request - Podcast held Monday 9th with Irish Independent (Fionnan Sheahan) to discuss expansion of National Cycle Network and learning from Sandymount**
- <https://podcasts.apple.com/ie/podcast/stay-in-your-lane-why-cant-we-push-for-more-bike-paths/id1568934774?i=1000560146698>

AGREED DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 13th June 2022

SAMRA Actions Log

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting			
1.	COMMUNITY FUN DAY	Whole Committee	Reference to the Google- Sheet being on-line managed by Margaret
2.		DT	Publicity Mailshot to membership
3.		KA	Twitter Account to be re-invigorated and utilised
4.		DT	Insurance policy to be forwarded to MB
5.	Response to DCC letter	SH/Flood Risk SC	Letter to DCC
6.	Park Ave Traffic letter to Councillors regarding not in service buses	DT	
7.	Pedestrianisation	DT	Letter to DCC (BH)
8.	YEATS DAY	IDL	To make contact with TJ and understand '22 as transition year
9.		DT	Email to TJ making him aware of the plan
Ongoing Actions			
10.	Footpath parking discussion – future agenda item	KH	
11.	Odour detectors – future agenda item	JH	
12.	Glass Bottle Site - Point of Planning Legal clarification required	NMcE/LK	
13.	Dublin Democratic Planning Alliance (DDPA) – a.Request for map of SAMRA physical boundaries required	LK	

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
14.	Flood Risk next steps to expedite DCC to initiate phase 1 construction and Phase 2 planning	SH	As per DCC position paper
15.	Community FUN DAY – support actions	Various	As per minutes 7 th March onwards
16.	SAMRA Green Notice Board update	Tba	
17.	Dublin Port 3FM : Media publication of SAMRA 31 st submission	DT/KA	
18.	Establish case for SAMRA backing to Ivana Bacik Dublin Bay Bill	Dave T	
19.	Establish a Chair/Lead of Dublin Port 3FM sub-committee	DaveT	
20.	Establish Update SAMRA position paper to Pedestrianisation Report	Stephen Hurley	
21.	Beach erosion and sewage incident – forward plan required for public health hazard events	DT	
22.	DD Alliance – re-zoning list to be sought from Councillors	NMcE	
23.	Proposal as a future action to engage local schools for a new SAMRA LOGO Action supported but post AGM2022	tba	
24.	Post Meeting request – to send Committee Member photo (as required) for updating of website Committee details	ALL	
25.	Architectural Heritage	NMcE	Facilitation of Sandymount survey

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
26.	Cycle route	NMcE / DT	Write a position paper which addresses the Strand Road traffic whilst incorporating the Off-Road solution, combined with Flood Defence needs
27.	SAMRA Logo for use on letter heads – develop options around the Village green and circulate committee (8/12)	DT	Action transferred following EL departure from committee
28.	Pembroke Quarter – establish Sub-Committee	NMcE	
29.	Membership Data Gaps	JMcA/DT	
30.	DCC Dev Plan – biosphere protection	LK	Will request support if needed in drafting
31.	Sandymount VDS Village Project Programme	DT/NMcE	To meet with DL and establish a way forwards
32.	PA – YMCA sale application	NMcE/EL/LK	Establish status and consider SAMRA steps
33.	Secretarial Role candidates - Resource a Secretary for SAMRA	DT	Ongoing
34.	Cycle route – Success/Failure Criteria	DT/NmcE	Pending High Court Decision
35.	Communication & Media Needs of SAMRA (28/09)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
36.	Constitution Update (09/11)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
37.	Dublin Port Development Plan – reclaim land proposal by DP (08/12)	LK/EL	Circulation of a proposed letter to Committee
38.	Write to owner of Martello Tower requesting visit for SAMRA	DT / local councillors	Update provided by Dermot Lacey w/c 8 June.
39.	Engagement regarding Poolbeg Incinerator	TBC	No progress to report. Potential future actions: EPA meeting / review Notifiable Incidents report

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
40.	Contact Martello Tower owner to explore future plans	SH / DT	Outstanding action, awaiting progress report from Councillors..
Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)			
41.	Sean Moore Awards attendance	DT	
42.	AVIVA Community Fund	DT	Forward the previous SAMRA template + AVIVA protocol
43.	AVIVA Community Fund	MW	To submit for 2022 – FUN DAY a good opportunity
44.	CDP Completion	NMcE + DT	Adjustments and Submission
45.	Pedestrianisation	DT/SH	Working Group to develop a formula in conjunction with DCC for the optimum way forward, based on Trial, DCC Report and Consultation
46.	Recirculation of Pedestrianisation report	DT	
47.	Strand Road Traffic Calming - request details from DCC	DT	
48.	CDP Working Groups Coordination	NMcE + Members	
49.	SAMRA Strategy development	PJOG/ DT/EL	Ongoing sub-committee support
50.	Paypal Due-Dilligence	DT	Ongoing
51.	Comment on Strategy Sub-Committee Draft to PJ	ALL	
52.	CDP - Set up sub-committee	NMcE	
53.	Treasurer Handover Meeting	DT/JMcA/JH	Ongoing

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
54.	Graphic to the MACE electronic notice board	DaveT / Mark Wheeler	
55.	Dublin Port 3FM Major Infrastructure Project – SAMRA input by 31 st December	NMcE/	
56.	AGS – to with and coordinate a WhatsApp Group and find ways eg AGM / Newsletter exchanges to strengthen linkages to AGS	MW / DT	
57.	Circulation of Membership Report	Dave T	
	Dublin Port 3FM - Response of Position Paper by 31st December	Dave T/TBA	
58.	Tesco development query	NMcE	
59.	Strategic Housing development (SHD) (08/12)	NMcE	Discussion concluded that SAMRA had concerns regarding SHD attitude to SDZs & ABP. This has been relayed verbally by LK and it is expected that ERA will update their document, re-forward and SAMRA will then formally endorse. PENDING
60.	PA – Sandymount Avenue	NmcE/EL/LK	With ABP – Monitor
61.	Summer social	tba	
62.	Climate Action Plan/Flood Risk Agenda Item to be set to establish SAMRA’s formal position to Professor Ray Bates work	DT	
63.	Pembroke Quarter	NMcE	Re-establish communication updates as a registered consultation member
64.	Dublin Development Planning Alliance	NMcE	Letter confirming SAMRA

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
65.	Flood Defence work and SAMRA's position	NMcE/DT	Position Paper for SAMRA
66.	CGLC Grant candidates	DT/ALL	Eligible 27 th September – 31 st October
67.	Strand Beach Pollution Incident	SH	Response to DCC letter
68.	Issue Membership Report dated 30 th June	DT	
69.	Issue Membership Report dated 30 th June	DT	
70.	Pedestrianisation Trial	DT	Update email to members
71.	Architectural Heritage – establish process for protecting	NMcE	
72.	Sandymount Beach Raw Sewage Beach Erosion – Letter to DCC requesting actions to resolve	DT	
73.	Ray Bates presentation to be forwarded across SAMRA Committee	DT	
74.	Weedkiller Useage - Letter to DCC	LK	
75.	Letter to DCC requesting addition cycle parking pods	DT	Completed
76.	Letter to DCC regarding incorporation of actions with regards to Pedestrianisation concerns	DT	Completed
77.	CDP – Red Lines to be drafted	LK	Completed
	City Development Plan – Early Engagement	NMcE/LK	Completed

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
78.	Membership Status	DT	To seek endorsement from SAMRA Committee for the Membership Rules and Protocol and seek active support for ongoing actions
79.	PA – Incinerator	DT	Draft letter for Observation – time barred – unable to address due to lack of resource
80.	PA – Incinerator	DT	Letter to EPA – time barred, unable to address due to lack of resource
81.	Research upcoming Dublin City Development Plan to understand topics and timescales	EL	<p>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.</p> <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 <p>Phase 4 - Material amendments</p>
82.	PA – Poolbeg Glass Bottle Site	SH	To establish status of current actions and advise SAMRA steps
83.	Litter Proliferation at Strand Green	IDL	Letter + photo to 5x Pembroke Councillors - requesting action
84.	Treasurer Successor	DT	
85.	Treasurer Hand-Over Statement	JMcA	
86.	Membership Report - May	DT	
87.	Summer Newsletter	DT/EL/PJOG	
88.	PA – St John’s Church Hall	NmcE/EL/LK	Supportive but to write to DCC and seek conditions

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
89.	Cycle Route – Consultation Process Paper (M Flynn)	NME	To circulate copy requesting SAMRA support
90.	Pedestrianisation Proposal	DT/ALL	To establish SAMRA Committee position on proposal. COMPLETED : 7 For; 2 Against; 1 x Abstention
91.	Pedestrianisation Proposal - Draft Letter	SH	RCVD & CLOSED
92.	Membership registration & clean-up; 2 actions 15/02	DT	
93.	Clarify status on AVIVA grant and potential SAMRA alternative funding needs (09/11)	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. “
94.	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 CLOSED
95.	Cycle Route Survey Question to SAMRA Members – agreed in principle : Single Topic, Simple Question	NMcE	Survey question to be agreed : Proposed by email debate : Q)What is your position on the current DCC proposal for an on-road 2-way cycle route along Strand Rd ? A)Support / Oppose
96.	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
97.	SAMRA Strategic development – prepare a draft for Committee discussion (08/120)	PJOG	COMPLETED
98.	Update PAYPAL/Website to new subscription structure €40/30/10 (23/11)	DT	Requested and awaited COMPLETED
99.	Planning Principles Re-Endorsement (09/11)	DT/ALL	Agenda item

For Issue

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
100.	Railway Union Offer to SAMRA (25/01)	DT/Committee	Response required. CLOSED
101.	12 th Feb DWtE Community Gain Liason Committee	DT	Agenda has been issued
102.	DCC Virtual seminars On Development Plan 2022-2028	DT/Agree attendance	Closing date for submissions 22/02/2021
103.	South Georgian Core Residents Association 31/01	DT/ALL	Phillip O'Callaghan - seeking support from SAMRA to circulate a petition to resist closure by ESB of the Georgian House Museum in Fitzwilliam Street Lower