

## **Minutes of Residents Meeting 3rd Sept 2018**

The meeting was chaired by Catherine Clancy. 36 residents attended. Also in attendance were Gary Mulcahy from UCC and Shane Fagan, Mideam Developments. Apologies were received from Cllrs Moloney, Buttimer, Cremin & Shields who were unable to attend due to a City Council presentation on the upcoming presidential election.

The chairperson thanked all for their attendance and then read through the minutes from the previous meeting, which were proposed and seconded. The meeting began with a presentation by John O'Rourke from the City Forum Group who are liaising with UCC, Gardai and Publicans on the upcoming Student Freshers week which begins on Sun 9th Sept. John outlined the various measures being put in place and issues likely to arise during that week. He stated that flyers will be delivered to houses in the area the coming week detailing contact nos. in the event of any issues with noise, antisocial behaviour, public street drinking, vandalism etc. He stressed how important prevention was rather than waiting for things to get out of hand and it was important to use the contact numbers especially Gardai numbers if any issue arose. He also stressed that residents for their own safety should not confront groups of people who are causing a disturbance but instead call Gardai. Landlords should be contacted if there are issues with tenants in their properties. There will be also student representatives patrolling the streets and security issues dumping of litter/rubbish can be reported to them. They will organise clean up of any rubbish dumped. John will be requesting a heavy Garda presence in the Magazine Rd, Denroche's Cross and Bandon Rd areas. Residents then highlighted a number of issues such as drinking on streets, the gathering of large numbers of students by the Centra Store on Denroche's Cross and the need for a higher Garda and UCC patrol presence throughout the year. Gary Mulcahy UCC stated that for safety reasons the UCC patrol can only be extended if extra Gardai are available at the same time. The Chairperson then asked John as chairman of the City Forum to request the Gardai to increase patrols and presence in the area for the full months of September and October as she felt this would lay down a marker for students to behave for the rest of the academic year. The

chairperson thanked John for his attendance and support.

Gary Mulcahy UCC then gave a brief outline on the new UCC Rent & Information Booklet given to all students. Along with information on tenants rights, deposits leases etc. It also details codes of conduct applicable to all students and this includes the need for respect for the areas they live in including their responsibilities towards residents. It also warns of the consequences of antisocial behaviour and non adherence to the rules. Gary also stated that he is working on amending the existing complaint form whereby the

complainant does not have to include their name and address but that this will take time. Shane Fagan, Mideam then gave a brief update on the Carraigdun development on Dorgan's Rd. Shane explained that the recent Dorgan's Rd closure took longer than expected due to the poor condition of both the water supply and the sewage pipes which all had to be replaced. He stated that they are still on target to open the first phase in Jan 2019 with the second phase build due to start in 2 weeks time and ready for occupation in Sept 2019. Planning application on infill house on Magazine Road is with An Bord Pleanala. Shane also stated he didn't have details on the Sale Agreed posted on 2 Inis Fail which is next to where the infill house is planned for. Residents asked if windows on the development were opening in or out and Shane is to come back with information on this. He is also to come back with information on issues related to the narrow footpath on the Magazine Rd and the possibility of removing the remaining wall without interfering with the landscape on the Dunleary House site.

An Bord Pleanala decision on granting the planning application for student development on the former Riordan's Joinery site was outlined along with the reasoning behind their decision. Despite residents not being happy with the decision and especially with the

Lough Church and its sale of church grounds to facilitate the development, it was explained that it would be up to the Save The Lough Group to decide if they were to go ahead with a judicial review

Residents highlighted issues with overhanging trees on the Glasheen Rd close to the Hartlands Ave. junction. There are 3 properties involved and it was agreed that the association would write to City Council to highlight the dangers to both pedestrians and motorists along with a request to ask the owners of the properties to cut back the trees/hedgings or that City Council would do so themselves

A resident in Westbourne Park complained of rubbish being dumped onto a derelict site in the park which is becoming a health hazard. Apparently the owner was refused planning some years ago and the site is now overgrown and being used as a rubbish dump especially by students staying on Highfield Ave. and whose houses back onto the site.

Again it was agreed to write to City Council and request that action be taken to clean up. Residents complained of various incidents of antisocial behaviour during the summer months and not all being student related. Reports of drug taking/dealing and houses being rented on the cheap and as a result an undesirable element moving into the area. There were also reports of Leaving Cert student renting houses in the area for the summer months again with very cheap rent available. It was again stressed that residents should report all suspicious activity to an Gardaí

The Chairperson then stated that following the purchase of cleaning items from the City Council Community Grant it is hoped to have a clean up of the area in October this year and she looked forward to residents participation, following the successful Spring Clean Up in April this year

The date of the next meeting was set for 7.30pm on Mon 1st October. The meeting then concluded and the chairperson thanked everybody for attending in increased numbers especially those who had come along for the first time