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Subject: Residents Oct. Meeting

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Hello Councillors,

At our last meeting on Mon 1st October many residents raised a number of issues that had been brought to the attention of City Council previously and where action had been promised but not delivered on. There was quite a lot of anger expressed by residents at the lack of commitment by City Council to the area. Residents at the meeting felt that City Council have totally neglected our area and now no longer viewed the area as residential. This has resulted in little or no progress on issues previously highlighted. Residents compared the deliberate neglect of the area in comparison to City Council's upkeep and maintenance of adjoining areas such as Ballyphehane, Togher, Wilton, Bishopstown, Melbourne/Leesdale and Model Farm Road.

The committee were asked to request your help in progressing the following issues.

1. Street Cleaning - prior to summer break manual street cleaning was introduced on a resource availability regime. This stopped at the start of summer and now the roads and footpaths in the entire area (Magazine Rd, Glasheen Rd and all roads and parks running off these) are filthy with take away cartons, broken glass, bottles cans etc. Residents request that this manual road cleaning be restarted as soon as possible with a more frequent regime. It should cover Magazine Rd from Denroche's Cross to St Claire's Ave and on Glasheen Rd from Denroche's Cross to Croaghta Park including the parks off these roads. Road Sweeper vehicles are not the answer due to the number of vehicles parked in the area.

2. Traffic Surveys - a traffic survey on Magazine Rd was postponed from June and promised for September. This needs to be carried out as soon as possible with a view to introducing some sort of traffic controls to curb both the volume and speed of traffic using this road. A traffic survey is now also required on Glasheen Rd to determine the speeds being driven by motorists on the stretch of road between Denroche's Cross and Croaghta Park. Motorists are far exceeding the speed limit on this stretch.

Following a traffic survey on Coolgarten Park in late Dec/early Jan(a time probably deliberately chosen by City Council because most traffic on holidays), there was a commitment by City Council to introduce some sort of speed controls (signage etc).

This has not been done to date and as was stated at the time by residents, the park is being used as a rat run by motorists to avoid delays on Dorgans Rd and motorists who were using Kilcrea Park to exit onto Glasheen Rd are now also using the park as a rat run. These motorists are driving across the park at high speed and there is a great danger issue involved for motorists (both residents and people who use this section to park) in trying to exit the cul de sac section of the park.

This entire Magazine Rd including roads and parks close by seems to be the only area where City Council refuse to consider the use of speed ramps or rumble strips to control both the speed and volume of traffic even though these types of restrictions are seen throughout other less busy areas. Residents highlighted the fact again that the area is seen by City Council to be almost non residential and any remaining residents are small in number and so do not matter. Therefore they don't need to take any notice of this serious problem.

3. Indiscriminate and Illegal Parking - this has become a major issue again following the start up of college year again. There is a daily occurrence of cars being parked(or more likely dropped) on double yellow lines at exits all along Magazine Rd and the surrounding parks but especially at the entrances to and from Coolgarten Park (no refuse collections on two Mondays in Sept due to inability to access park).

More importantly this causes serious concerns for residents requiring access for Emergency Services. There are also now issues with cars parking almost fully on footpaths on Magazine

Rd, Highfield Ave and Highfield West on the pretence that they are not interfering with traffic flow. However, this necessitates pedestrians having to walk onto roads to pass by and is a huge impediment to any person using any form of disability aid such as wheelchair or wakin aid. It also appears to residents that half the students in UCC with cars have managed to have parking permits which is difficult to understand.

4. Derelict House Dorgans Rd - Residents Association informed that this house was sold by City Council. However, it is still lying idle and falling into further neglect with overgrowing hedging and trees again becoming a danger to all who pass by as well as becoming a vermin infested spot. City Council are well aware that this property was previously being used as a drug dealing spot and they should now put pressure on the new owner to repair/develop the property.

5. Overgrown trees - Junction of Glasheen Rd and Hartlands Ave. City Council made aware of the danger. Traffic lights not visible to motorists approaching this junction from lower Glasheen Rd / Wilton. This is an accident waiting to happen. It is also a source of extreme danger to pedestrians using the footpath at night as they are likely to walk into these overhanging trees.

We would be very grateful if you could pursue these issues with City Council on our behalf. We are well aware and appreciate that your lobbying does have a positive effect. We have had little or no success in efforts. One piece of good news is that repairs to footpaths on St Claires Ave have started and we thank you for your efforts on highlighting this.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Mon 5th Nov at 7.30pm and as always we look forward to seeing you if your commitments allow.

Kindest Rgds,
Aidan Cahill, Secretary, Magazine Road Residents Association