

From: Kelly Coyle <deputy@uccsu.ie>
Subject: Re: Residents Meeting
Date: 10 January 2019 at 16:20:53 GMT
To: Aidan Cahill <aidan.cahill2@gmail.com>
Cc: Students Union UCC Students Union PRESIDENT <president@uccsu.ie>

Hi again Aidan,

After looking into this we have dropped the 'refreshers' branding of the event, we hope that this will help in preventing it from becoming another big week in the college calendar. We will still be running events throughout the week but the majority of them are aimed towards the wellbeing of students. We will also have our Student Community Support team out on Monday during the day and they will be on stand-by for the rest of the week should they be needed. We hope that next week does not cause any disturbance to our local residents and we hope that we can continue to work together on these issues. I will speak to Alan to see if we will be available to attend the meeting on the 4th of February. Please keep the lines of communication open, should you have any further queries or any further concerns around the week.

On Thu, 10 Jan 2019 at 16:14, Aidan Cahill <aidan.cahill2@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Kelly,

Thank you for your response and my sincere condolences on your family bereavement. With regard to Refreshers Week, residents are concerned that because it has been given an official title this year it could become as big an event as Freshers Week and Raise & Give Week which despite the good intentions behind these events, history has shown that there is a minority who engage in serious misuse of alcohol and/or other substances and which then can and does lead to serious issues of antisocial behaviour. This in turn leads to many elderly residents being frightened and upset in their own homes. We had been advised that Garda Trish was on annual leave and so Gardai would not have advance notice of the event. Hopefully the weeks events will take place as you intend and residents will always be supportive of any event promoting Mental and Physical Health. We as residents are very proud of the area we live in, part of which has been designated as an Area of Architectural Conservation and all we request of students is that they treat the area and the residents with the same respect. Unfortunately the behaviour of a minority of students can give residents a very negative opinion of the entire student population. Therefore your recent announcement on your new initiatives are hugely positive and is why we invited you to our monthly meeting. I know circumstances outside your control prevented this but we would welcome the SU attendance at future meetings. We feel it is vital for residents to be much more aware of the positive work students do in our community rather than only hearing the negative. Our next meeting is scheduled for 4th Feb 7.30pm at Horgans Building Community Room. Again thank you for response to my email. I can be contacted at anytime 0868151499 and I look forward to future good relations.

Best Regards,

Aidan

On 10 Jan 2019, at 11:51, Kelly Coyle <deputy@uccsu.ie> wrote:

Hi Aidan,

Thank you for getting in touch with us about this.

Firstly, I would like to apologise that neither Alan or myself could attend the residents meeting this week, Alan was away on annual leave and I had to attend a funeral at home in Westmeath.

Secondly, I would like to apologise for how the Refreshers Week has been communicated. Our main emphasis for the week is around the welfare of our students as we are having a number of different campaigns around Mental and Physical Health to encourage students to mind their mental health and to get active in the new year.

I would also like to clarify that while there was no ReFreshers Week last year, this is an event that has taken place and been endorsed by the SU before, however I still understand your concerns around anti-social behaviour. I would also like to clarify that it is not going ahead without any reference or discussion with the Gardaí. We have worked with Community Garda Trish O'Riordan and she is okay with the timetable of events. She is also working for the full week. We are also looking into making our Student Community Support team available during the week.

Apologies again for the delay in responding, if you wish Alan can give you a call tomorrow.