

Minutes of Residents Meeting 7th Feb 2022

Chairperson opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. 22 residents along with Sgt Mick O'Connell, Garda Trish O'Riordan, Gary Mulcahy and Nóirín Breen UCC. Cllrs Thomas Moloney and Colette Finn. Apologies received from Dan Collins MTU, Tom Roche and Norma Foley.

Condolences were expressed to resident Ger Stack on the recent death of his mother RIP.

Gardai gave an update on issues over the Christmas period, which were quiet in comparison to previous years, with just one or two isolated issues which have been dealt with.

Some residents expressed concerns at the difficulty in getting messages to the Community Gardai. Both Sgt Mick and Garda Trish gave their email addresses and assured residents of follow up to issues raised.

Sgt Mick also stated that Supt. O'Sullivan has given a commitment to residents that Gardai will have extra patrols on duty throughout RAG Week beginning on Mon 27th Feb. These patrols will also be in place on Sunday 26th Feb.

Gary Mulcahy UCC gave an update on outstanding complaints, which again were much lower than previous years. He continued to encourage residents to use the Campus Watch complaint system.

Gary then introduced Nóirín Breen to the meeting. Nóirín has been appointed as the new Neighbourhood Support Officer. He stated that UCC were the first university to have such a role and thanked the residents association for their work in securing the role.

Nóirín gave a brief outline of her role. Her aim is to build positive relations between residents, UCC and its students through the Students Union. She will also engage with Gardai and Cork City Council on projects that are agreed with residents(eg. street landscaping & signage) with the emphasis on respect and responsibility. Future plans include introducing an education process for first year students and having a holistic approach to relations.

There was a very positive reaction to this appointment from residents. The Chairperson thanked President John O'Halloran, Gary and UCC on this appointment. She also thanked the residents for their work over the last number of years, which contributed to the creation of this role.

Cllr Colette Finn gave an outline on the current state of the Bandon Rd development with major junction changes to the area (including road and footpath changes along with tree planting) due to begin over the coming weeks. The Chairperson requested that the City Council Engineer for this project be requested to meet with resident representatives prior to the commencement of this work. The Cllrs are to follow up on this request. The Chairperson thanked Cllr Colette and Tom Roche for their work on this project.

There was a heated discussion on the serious after hours parking and traffic issues in the area. There are major ongoing safety issues especially on entrances and exits to Coolgarten at Magazine and Glasheen Rds along with Coolgarten itself. The safety and lack of access for Emergency Services were highlighted and Cllrs are to request a visit by a Roads Engineer to look at possible solutions. Gardai were requested to do an after hours blitz in the area for a week or so. Sgt Mick & Garda Trish are to pass on this request to their Traffic Division. There was anger expressed again at the number of parking

permits being issued for the area. There appears to be no relationship between the number of parking spaces available and the number of permits being issued.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Moloney for his work on engaging with City Council on residents behalf especially on the signage project. He is also assisting the secretary on securing funding from City Council for the project along with assisting Nóirín(UCC) on the process of securing permission from City Council for the erection of this signage.

Residents continue to positively assist Iesa Elizabeth Mortell and Patricia Pavlovic on their degree dissertations.

The Chairperson thanked resident Mairead Harrington for the huge amount of time and effort put in on RTB correspondence.

The Chairperson stated that planning permission for an off license at Cliffords Daybreak College Road was refused and she thanked residents who had made submissions.

The committee met with resident representatives from Limerick, Waterford, Galway, Athlone and Maynooth who are all living close to third level institutions and similar issues to ourselves. Long term we hope that this will lead to national call for action on residents concerns.

Next Meeting scheduled for Mon 7th March, 7.30pm.