

## Minutes of Residents Meeting 7th Feb. 2023

Chairperson Catherine Clancy opened the meeting and welcomed 30 residents along with Garda Sgt Mick O'Connell, Garda Laura O'Connor, Cllrs Dan Boyle, Paudie Dineen and Mick Finn, John Warren UCC, Keith Ricken and Deirdre Falvey both MTU.

Apologies from Cllrs Colette Finn, Thomas Moloney and Sean Martin. Apologies were also received from a number of residents.

Condolences were expressed to our residents Deirdre and Ger Stack on the recent death of Deirdre's mother, who had been a life long resident in our area.

Garda Sgt Mick O'Connell gave details on the policing plans for the upcoming UCC RAG Week, with a major emphasis on high visibility of Gardai on patrol. He along with Garda Laura have been in regular discussions with UCC, Students Union and publicans. Extra policing to start on Sun 12th Feb.

A meeting of all stakeholders including residents representatives is due to take place with Garda Superintendent John Deasy in Anglesea Street on Thurs 9th Feb.

John Warren outlined the plans being put in place in UCC and praised the work being done by the Students Union in organising events on campus along with SCS nightly patrols, local litter picks, street signage and the distribution of flyers to all households in there area. John is available to talk to individual residents who may have concerns.

Chairperson stated that early morning queues and on street drinking in a residential area is totally unacceptable and trusted that on this occasion, Gardai would prevent such behaviour.

Keith Ricken stated that the MTU Rag Week took place last week with very little activity, but expected their students to fully participate in the UCC event. They will contact all their students to remind them of their social responsibilities prior to the event.

Keith also referred to the residents recent submission on the MTU Code of Conduct and that it was being given due consideration. Noel Doherty was thanked for his work on this submission.

The ongoing issue of illegal parking was then discussed, with many residents angry at what they see as the total disregard by students who park in UCC designated car parks during daytime and then return in the late afternoon with many parking illegally (double yellow lines, disabled parking areas, bus stop areas, gateways and junctions).

The Chairperson asked the Councillors in attendance to request that City Council extend the policing hours of the traffic wardens to 8pm, which is the time shown on many of the parking signs in the area.

It was suggested that a random late evening blitz would be very effective in reducing this illegal parking. Councillors agreed to raise this at Council level.

The Cllrs also stated that they would raise this and other residents concerns and suggestions at the Roads & Transportation Policy Committee. These suggestions included the installation of electric charging points, bollards on the footpaths on Magazine Rd and a comprehensive look at traffic/parking volumes in the area.

It was stated that with over 25,000(staff & students) attending UCC and with these numbers continually increasing, the university must accept responsibility for the problems these increased numbers are having in the area and that they become proactive in solving these parking/traffic issues. It was agreed that this issue be raised again at the next UCC Neighbourhood Forum meeting 24th Feb.

The Chairperson then highlighted the ongoing issue of unregistered rental properties in the area and the lack of communication from the RTB to our previous correspondence, despite a commitment by RTB to do so. It was stated that the RTB is not fit for purpose and the Cllrs present suggested that our Dail Deputies should be encouraged to raise this at national government level.

The Chairperson thanked the Taoiseach's Office and those local TDs who highlighted this problem on previous occasions. The RA will be writing to the Director of the RTB over the coming weeks. The Chairperson thanked MaryD for her latest work on unregistered properties in the area.

The Chairperson thanked resident Liam O'Sullivan who contacted RTB and was given ownership details of a registered property on Magazine Rd following a violent incident. Owners of the property were contacted and immediate action was taken with new tenants now in place. The Chairperson stated that this incident and the swift follow up action is another example of how vital it is to have all rented properties registered with the RTB.

Cetti (Ryans Site) criticised by residents for working until 2am on 27th Jan. despite assurances that work would finish no later than 11pm on 26th. Cetti to be contacted for explanation.

Spring Clean provisionally scheduled for Sat 15th April.

The Chairperson thanked the Councillors for their attendance and for their continuing support to residents.

Chairperson then thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

**Next meeting scheduled for 7.30pm Tue 7th March**