

Minutes Residents Meeting 5th September 2023

Chairperson Catherine Clancy opened the meeting and welcomed residents along with Garda Laura, Cllrs Thomas Moloney, Dan Boyle, and Mick Finn, John Warren UCC, Deirdre Creedon and Deirdre Falvey both MTU.

Apologies from Sgt Mick O'Connell, Cllrs Paudie Dinnen and Colette Finn. Apologies also received from a number of named residents.

Condolences were expressed to the families to the late Con Casey and Joan Ryan who died over the summer.

The Chairperson thanked all who made the annual summer social morning a huge success. Special thanks to John Warren & UCC for making their HUB available at short notice along with providing refreshments on the day.

Residents turned up in great numbers with many showing off their home baking skills and a very enjoyable morning was had by all.

UCC Freshers Week 10th - 14th September:

The Chairperson outlined details of a meeting called by Superintendent John Deasy for all stakeholders(attended by Community Gardai, UCC, Students Union, Publicans, Street Pastors and our own RA) where he outlined what he expected in ensuring a successful, enjoyable, respectful and safe week for all. Our Chairperson made a very positive contribution to this meeting.

John Warren detailed all the preparatory work being done in advance of Freshers Week, especially by the Students Union - organising and training of student patrols, signage, flyers etc. Big emphasis on safety and respectful behaviour. John on call during the week to anyone requiring assistance.

An increased number of Freshers events including night time events will be held on UCC Campus this year with two big concert events planned for Sunday and Thursday.

Cork City Partnership will be doing litter cleaning in the area in addition to the students litter cleanup.

John to speak to all first year student during their orientation next week.

New Student Booklet due next week and will be distributed to all households.

Garda Laura outlined the policing plans for the week with extra Gardai on patrol from 4pm Sunday next. In advance, Gardai have visited all licensed premises in the area and been given assurances that these premises would not open before midday(no queues) during Freshers Week. Garda Laura in daily contact with John Warren and Students Union.

Garda Laura has requested the Traffic Division to pay particular attention to illegal parking issues in the area over the the next number of weeks and she has also been in touch with City Council requesting extra traffic warden patrols for the area.

MTU reopening and Freshers Week:

Deirdre Creedon and Deirdre Falvey MTU gave details on the reopening of the University with lectures for 2nd, 3rd & 4th years beginning on 11th September with orientation for all 1st years the same week during which Keith Ricken, MTU Student Services Officer will speak to all first year students. Keith has also forwarded the MTU booklet and the MTU Students Union booklet to the residents association. Both booklets include section on standards of behaviour for students living in an established residential area and encouraging them to getting to know their neighbours.

MTU Freshers Week 25th to 28th Sept, with events in Bishopstown and city centre. MTU Students Union liaising with Gardai in Bishopstown on these events.

The Chairperson thanked Deirdre Creedon for the beneficial meeting with the RA committee earlier in the summer where ideas and opinions on future engagement were shared.

A resident suggested to both John (UCC) and Deirdre (MTU) that the universities should consider, when addressing an orienteering meeting with first year students that a resident's representative would be in attendance to explain to these students what is and what is not acceptable when living in a residential area.

Both John and Deidre agreed to consider this.

Another residents suggestion was that in assisting students to integrate into the community, John would arrange to meet students and residents together for a chat and cuppa in small groups around the area. Last year's pilot project was very successful. John agreed to look at this late Sept/early Oct.

Update from City Councillors:

Chairperson thanked Cllr Dan Boyle for his €100 ward contribution to to RA.

Cllr Dan Boyle stated that a full Council meeting is scheduled for Mon next 11th Sept. He has put in a motion to extend traffic warden hours to cover late evenings.

Cllr Thomas Moloney is to check on status of proposed works scheduled for the Coolgarten area, originally planned for completion prior to reopening of UCC.

Cllr Mick Finn continuing to work on progressing upgrade of roundabout at the end of College Rd/Magazine Rd junction.

Chairperson thanked the Cllrs for their ongoing support and suggested that they request City Council to extend the traffic warden hours to coincide with the traffic hours displayed on parking signs(20.30hrs). This could be done as a pilot project for this area and suggested that it would be self financing with the guaranteed increase in parking fines income to the Council.

Chairperson praised the Litter Section of City Council Environment Dept in their prompt response to complaints on overflowing bins and rubbish piling up in gardens over the summer. Residents were urged to contact them if they came across any street or garden/house litter.

UCC Neighbourhood Forum 22nd Aug.

Much of the meeting was on discussing arrangements for Freshers Week. However following a request by a resident some months ago, Pat Cotter, General Services Manager UCC confirmed that he had progressed the purchase of three defibrillators for the area and was waiting on delivery. These to be installed in Connaught Avenue, Sheraton Court(Glasheen Rd) and delivery entrance at rear of Hayfield Manor(Horgan's Buildings). Training to be organised at a later date.

Other Business:

Country Clean again came in for criticism for their lack of engagement and their refusal to empty bins with their lids not fully closed. There is also an issue of non collection of bins where the ID tags had fallen off.

No decision so far from An Bord Pleanala on the proposed building of a bungalow in the rear garden of Dunavon, St Clares Ave.

The response recently received from RTB Deputy Director following our meeting back in April makes it obvious now that RTB will not be doing proactive policing or enforcing on unregistered properties and will continue to depend on complaints from third parties (residents, tenants and local authorities).

The Chairperson thanked all for their work in preparing for reopening of universities inc plans in place for Freshers Weeks.

She thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

Next Meeting Tue. 7.30pm 3rd October