

## **Minutes Residents Meeting 3rd October 2023**

Chairperson Catherine Clancy opened the meeting and welcomed residents along with John Warren UCC, Deirdre Creedon and Deirdre Falvey both MTU, Michelle Keane Cork City Partnership and Cllr Colette Finn.

Apologies from Sgt Mick O'Connell and Garda Laura, Cllrs Paudie Dineen, Dan Boyle and Mick Finn.

Apologies from residents Barry Guilfoyle and Mairead Harrington.

### **Update on UCC Freshers Week:**

John Warren thanked all involved for the overall success of the event with special mention for the work done by Students Union, SCS Patrols and Gardai.

John stated he had also spoken to 4,500 first year students during their orientation week with emphasis on the responsibilities that come with living in a residential community.

John will continue to work on improving communication, networking and building relationships with all in the community and urged residents to contact him if they have any issues including any issue with a student rented property.

The distribution of the Community Booklet should be completed over the next few days.

### **Update on MTU Freshers Week:**

Deirdre Creedon stated that the MTU Freshers Week had passed off without incident, with Deirdre Falvey confirming that she hadn't received any complaints from residents.

Deirdre Creedon also thanked resident Mary Doherty for her offer to do a short video presentation of living in a residential community and the responsibilities that comes with living in such an area. This will be part of a training programme for MTU Students Union representatives.

The Chairperson thanked everybody involved for the success of both Freshers Weeks and praised the huge supports and structures (Gardai, Students Unions, UCC, MTU, Cork City Council and pub owners) put in place, which ensured residents didn't feel alone or vulnerable.

Chairperson also thanked and complimented John Warren on the new Community Booklet and for including input from residents.

### **The Chairperson introduced Michelle Keane, Southside Community**

Development Officer with Cork City Partnership who proceeded to explain her role of working with the communities throughout the south side of the city.

The role involves supporting the various communities with special emphasis on disadvantaged communities. Magazine Rd, Greenmount, Bandon Rd and the Lough are all part of her area and she is keen to engage with our RA on any emerging needs within our area.

The Chairperson thanked Michelle for attending our meeting and trusted that her work would now act as a support to residents, especially those who would not have been aware of these supports.

The Chairperson also thanked Michelle and John for organising last weeks very successful Coffee Morning in UCC for residents. This was a lovely event with UCC President John O'Halloran also attending and it afforded residents an opportunity to meet Michelle in an informal setting.

**Update from Cllr Colette Finn & City Council Issues:**

Maintenance of the green area around Ashlin Student Building at Denroches Cross which had been the responsibility of the owners has now been taken on by City Council. Chairperson requested that this be included on a maintenance programme and given priority before it becomes a litter blackspot. Signage also to be erected in this area.

The RA request for a pilot project where traffic wardens would cover this area after business hours has been proposed by Cllrs as part of the upcoming City Council Budget and is being looked at favourably.

Cllr Finn asked to request that 20.30hrs requirement for disc parking similar to what applies on Magazine and College Rds be extended to cover Glasheen Road, Hartlands Road, Hartlands Ave, Coolgarten and Kilcrea Park. If approved, signage will need to be changed.

Speed bumps for Coolgarten now definitely included in list of works for 2024. Disappointment expressed having been given the impression by City Council engineer that it was hoped to have it done by September this year.

Due to recent retirements of senior staff in the parks and outdoor section of City Council, there is further delay to the proposed upgrade of the roundabout at the junction of lower Magazine and College Rd.

Because of delays due to these retirements, residents committee will now proceed with their own planting of the new green areas in Coolgarten.

Residents complained of the speed of cars and the mounting of footpaths on the section of Magazine between Centra and Lima Lawn. Serious dangers to the huge number of pedestrians using this road. Requests made to Cllr Finn to get City Council to examine this area again including the suggestion of placing bollards on footpaths to prevent cars mounting the footpaths. Many residents also complained of the volume of cars coming into the area. With 22,000 students, many having their own cars, residents have asked for restrictions on non resident cars coming in to the area similar to what is in place in many European university cities. Thanks to Cllr Paudie Dineen for his ward fund donation of €200.

**Any Other Business:**

The Chairperson thanked resident Mick Monk for his engagement with City Council and Country Clean in getting some obsolete/unregistered refuse bins removed in Highfield West. Mick praised City Council's prompt response.

Correspondence sent to Cetti re. trucks unloading pallets of materials on Glasheen Rd, blocking driveways thus preventing the residents from getting their cars out. Apologies received from Cetti and a commitment to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

Plans being discussed in UCC re the student Christmas Day event and how to prevent a repeat of last years antisocial behaviour. Should have information at our next meeting.

Date for our annual Christmas Social Evening will be finalised before our next meeting.

Chairperson thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.

**Next Meeting 7.30pm Tuesday 7th November**