

DEPUTATION MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time: 25th October 2017 @ 3pm

Deputation Group: Esker Drive Residents

Councillors Present:	Cllr. Ed O'Brien Cllr. Gus O'Connell Apologies: Cllr. Casserly Cllr. O'Toole Cllr. Gogarty
Deputation:	Liam Swan Gordon Parker
Council Officials Present:	
Siobhan Duff	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Helena Fallon	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Willie Purcell	Land Use Planning & Transportation
John Coughlan	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Adrian Barrett	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Robert Roche	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Brian Carroll	Housing, Social & Community Development
Carol McDonnell	Housing, Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Ed O'Brien.

1) Traffic congestion on Esker Drive.

The group state that traffic is having a detrimental effect on their community. They ask if South Dublin County Council has a local access plan developed and has the R120 been surveyed for traffic patterns and volumes.

Ms. Helena Fallon from the Land Use Planning & Transportation department replies to say that surveys have been carried out recently. Specifically, Newcastle Junction, Hillcrest Junction & the R120. The reports have been deferred until the next Lucan Area Committee Meeting so the Councillors have an opportunity to review these reports. The R120 to the Nangor Road scheme is going out to site in the next month and it is envisaged that the scheme will promote cycling on the R120 to the schools beside Esker Drive.

The group ask when the report will be made public and available on the Council's website.

Ms. Fallon confirms that the report is now available on the Lucan ACM page on the Council's website.

The group refer to the planning application and ask will the plan for the R120 roundabout be published and will the construction works for both schools be coordinated with works on the roundabout by SDCC.

Mr. Willie Purcell from the Land Use Planning & Transportation department replies to say that the plan is already approved and that it would be difficult to vary that plan at this stage, so close to the works beginning.

The group ask, has anyone looked at incorporating all the works as one plan?

Ms. Fallon confirms that there are separate applications but there is a set down area that is part of the National Schools application. There will be parking for teachers at the north end of the site separate from the other drop off locations. There is a proposal to encourage parking at the Lucan Harriers sports complex which has walking access to the Community College.

Ms. Siobhan Duff from the Land Use Planning & Transportation department stated that An Bord Pleanála had agreed with the separate set down area and the teacher parking to the north of the site. Ms. Duff said that this approach should benefit the residents in the long run.

The group are unsure about how the entrances & exits on Esker Drive and school set down areas will function and ask if restricting traffic exiting the Community College to turning left would be a solution.

Mr. Purcell replies to say that sending all traffic towards the R120 roundabout at SuperValu would cause other issues. It is hoped that parents will not be dropping off children directly outside the school. Mr. Purcell says that there will be exceptions for children with disabilities & school buses but would expect most parents to do the drop offs a few hundred meters away from the Community College.

The group are looking at this situation from the flow point and do not think that the good will of motorists will happen. The group ask if both Construction Traffic Management Plans will be coordinated & monitored by the Council in order to restrict the adverse effects of construction to commuters and residents.

Mr. Purcell says that SDCC will be observing the works very closely and if there are any problems with traffic, restricting construction traffic between 8.30am & 9.30am will be looked at. Mr. Purcell states that SDCC will be working to get the CMTP working with community in mind.

Cllr. Gus O'Connell asks if there is a start date available for both developments.

Cllr. Ed O'Brien asks if time restrictions being put in place is a pre requisite.

Mr. Purcell confirms that time restrictions being put in place is part of the planning conditions. He does not have commencement dates to hand.

Ms. Duff said she did not have the commencement dates but would find out and will refer back to the Elected Members and the group.

2) Cyclists & safety on Esker Drive.

The group explain that there has been an increase in the number of cyclists through Esker Drive, stating that the path is only 1.4m wide and not the minimum required 1.8m wide. The group want the path on the north side of Esker Drive widened.

Ms. Fallon explains that she does not have the planning conditions to hand and doesn't know if cycle tracks are part of these planning applications. Ms. Fallon confirms that she will check the conditions and reply to the Councillors and the group.

Mr. Purcell explains that SDCC can't retro fit every pathway that doesn't meet the current regulations and suggests that it would be safer for cyclists on the south side of the road. Mr. Purcell hopes that any future planning for the road on Esker Drive will widen footpaths and have off road cycle space.

The group suggests that the school could move their boundary wall a bit creating space for a cycle path. The group also suggest that Esker Drive is a possible route on the National Cycle Route plan. The group ask, that if that is the plan, where that cycle track is going to go.

Mr. Purcell suggests that a Compulsory Purchase Order could happen or there is a possibility of taking out hedgerows or trees on the south side of the road but that something will have to give way to accommodate any development.

Ms. Fallon says that Primary/Secondary routes take priority over the feeder routes and Esker Drive would be a long way down the list.

The group would like this suggestion considered in any future plans.

3) The location of the second entrance to Lucan Community College.

The group explain that one condition of the 2015 planning application was that there would be drop off points at Lucan Harriers sports complex. The plan was approved and the group ask why the 2017 application deviated away from this.

Mr. Purcell says that the plan was always to utilise the car park at the sports complex as a drop off which would provide an access point. Mr. Purcell asks if this condition was not carried through.

The group state that they were informed at an information meeting with the Community College that there was a direction from SDCC for preference of second entrance on Esker Drive. The group want this space at the sports complex car park utilised.

Mr. Purcell agrees with the idea and states that he will review the decision making process and the reports that were given. Mr. Purcell sees no reason why it can't be revisited and discussed with the view of it being reintroduced.

The group suggest that the National Transport Authority's Park and Stride programme could be utilised from Lucan Harriers sports complex car park.

Cllr. Ed O'Brien asks if the Council would be happy to look at the Lucan Harriers sports complex car park idea.

Mr. Purcell replies to say that while his department would be in favour of the idea, it would ultimately be the Environment, Water and Climate Change department that would have the final decision.

Cllr. Gus O'Connell suggests that the entrance of the Community College moved to Lucan Harriers sports complex car park idea and the exit to the roundabout at Supervalu.

Mr. Purcell replied to say that he could not support the suggestion on health & safety grounds.

Cllr. O'Connell stated that radical ideas would be necessary to find solutions for the continued traffic problems on the R120.

The group discussed the potential congregation of traffic at drop off points and asked about possible signage to stop illegal parking on Esker Drive.

Mr. Purcell asked the group would they be happy with permanent street furniture as a solution to a temporary problem.

Ms. Fallon explained to the group that the set down parking area would take traffic away from the residential houses.

4) Lucan Community College proposed sports hall & opening hours.

The group ask about the proposed sports hall being open outside of school hours and what potential impact it will have on the residents.

Ms. Duff replies to say that the issue has not been addressed and the Council have not heard anything about the plans.

Cllr. O'Connell states that the school have not looked outside of getting the extension built.

5) Lucan Community College outdoor courts & sports hall.

The group ask behalf of the residents about conditions placed on the developments in relation to lighting & noise coming from the outdoor courts at night time.

Ms. Duff explains to the group that a standard planning conditions are placed for light reduction. Ms. Duff is not aware of any specific conditions for this application but will check the file and refer back to the Elected Members and the group.

6) Commitments made at Deputation meeting.

- 1) Willie Purcell will monitor construction traffic and if necessary will restrict construction traffic between 8.30 & 9.30am.
- 2) Siobhan Duff to revert back to Councillors and Residents Association confirming dates of commencement notices for both developments.
- 3) Commitment by Helena Fallon to examine the widening of footpath along Esker Drive in any future construction along Esker Drive.
- 4) Helena Fallon to check if cycle tracks are part of the planning and revert back to Councillors and Residents Association.
- 5) Willie Purcell to review decision process regarding park & stride facility Lucan Harriers running club.
- 6) Siobhan Duff to check specific planning conditions for the Lucan Community College outdoor courts and refer back to the Elected Members and the group.