

DEPUTATION MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time **26th September, 2018 @ 3pm**

Deputation Group: **St. Martins Residents Association**

Councillors Present	Cllr. Charlie O'Connor
Apologises	Cllr. Mick Duff.
Deputation	Tara de Buitlear, Dave Power, Karl Tipping, Denise Delappe & Adrienne Dunleavy.
Council Official Present	
Mary Maguire	Environment Water & Climate Change
Máire Ni Dhomhnaill	Environment Water & Climate Change
Mary Keenan	Environment Water & Climate Change
Oisin Egan	Environment Water & Climate Change
Eamon Harnett	Environment Water & Climate Change
Brian Carroll	Housing Social & Community Development
Karen O'Neill	Housing Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Charlie O'Connor.

Items discussed:

- 1) **Request to plant copper beech hedge at Heather Close, Heatherview Drive & Carraigmore Road.**
- 2) **New trees & path maintenance at Aylesbury Park.**
- 3) **Litter management & enforcement in Aylesbury.**
- 4) **Public Lighting in Aylesbury.**
- 5) **Commitments given at Deputation meeting.**

Item 1 - Request to plant copper beech hedge at Heather Close, Heatherview Drive & Carraigmore Road.

The group request planting of copper beech hedge as an Anti-Graffiti screen and to improve urban biodiversity. The Group list the locations as Heatherview Close into Sean Walsh Park, beside the dentist at Heatherview Drive & Carraigmore Road boundary which faces the park.

Mr. Oisin Egan of the Environment Water & Climate Change department agreed to meet the Group on site to look at the stated locations and discuss what the best options for planting would be. Mr. Egan states that climbers or pollinator friendly plants may be better options for the area. Mr. Egan agreed to pass on contact details to the Group with the view of arranging the site meeting in next couple of weeks.

The Group noted that cooper beech hedge would be their preferred choice in order to enhance wildlife in the area.

Item 2: New trees & path maintenance at Aylesbury Park.

The Group thank South Dublin County Council (SDCC) for the work that has already been done on tree planting. The Group are looking for trees to be planted around the park area. The request of those locations is to create a natural barrier to secure the park, a barrier at the centre of the park to deter scrambler bikes using the area and the Group think the planting will help for the drainage of the four pitches on the park. The Group would like an update on their request. The Group also ask about the pathway from Church Grove to Pineview Road. The pathway is 10 years old and the tarmac has worn away with grass encroaching on the edges & growing through the tarmac.

Ms. Mary Kennan of the Environment Water & Climate Change department states that the general locations regarding planting have been agreed already. It was agreed to optimise the area and replace trees that have gone with larger specimens so that they fit into the surroundings. Ms. Keenan's department are currently compiling the Tree Planting Programme Winter 2018/Spring 2019 and this planting will be included in that. The actual planting will probably take place within January/February of 2019.

Mr. Egan stated that in the short term the path can be scrapped back and in the long term his department can look at getting the path resurfaced as part of the works program for 2019. The request for a new section of path can also be considered for the works program in 2019 and that the public lighting could be tied in with this.

The Group ask what the timeframe is regarding works on the paths as they are unsafe and especially with winter approaching, they will potentially become a trip hazard, so it is time sensitive.

Mr. Egan agreed to meet on site to see what is involved and see if there is any possibility of works being done in 2018, if it is not possible he will endeavour to include it in the works programme for 2019.

Item 3: Litter management and enforcement in Aylesbury.

The Group state that the accumulation of litter in the Aylesbury area, especially around the Shops, Community Centre and Church Grove, is an issue and it is noted by the Group that Shops & Businesses in the area are not cleaning up at the end of the trading day, which the Group states is required by the Bye Laws. The Group also request the replacement of a Green Bin on Church Grove that has disappeared. The Group ask can Litter Enforcement step in to ensure this happens?

Ms. Mary Maguire of the Environment Water & Climate Change department reads the report which she had received from the Litter Warden for the area, outlining the location of litter bins. There are 2 at Heatherview Road, one at the church gate and one at the shopping centre gate. At Church Grove there is one bin at the footpath as you turn in off Heatherview Road. There was another bin at the pedestrian exit, it's visible on street view maps but has been removed. At Heatherview Drive there is one litter bin opposite the shopping centre. At Firhouse Road West, there is a litter bin at the pedestrian exit from the church. There is a bin at the Community Centre pedestrian exit, this is the nearest litter bin to the new playground. There is a litter bin

on the footpath near Inis Thiar. Another litter bin on the footpath at the pedestrian entrance at Kiltipper Avenue. There are 7 SDCC litter bins in the area. There are 3 litter bins outside the doors of Supervalu and the post office. The area is litter picked by Supervalu. Ms. Maguire asked if the Litter Warden was satisfied with the Litter Management by the Commercial Outlets and the Litter Warden advised that they were.

Ms. Maguire agreed to convey concerns raised to the Litter Warden and request the Litter Warden have a conversation with the businesses in the area of concern.

The Group asked what time of the day was the survey done as that will impact the results as the Group are doing weekly litter clean ups, so findings may not be a true reflection of the issue. The Group state that it is their understanding that it is the obligation of the Commercial Outlet to clean up at the end of the day. The Group are looking for support from the authorities.

Ms. Maguire responded to say that the Bye Laws do not specify the time of day the clean-up has to be done, it only specifies the distance from the premises that is under that business remit.

The Group ask, what a business has to do to show that they are complying with Litter Regulations and if SDCC request records from businesses.

Ms. Maguire responded to say that SDCC don't request records as part of enforcement. It was suggested instead that the Group forward real-time images of the issues to SDCC.

The Group requested that going forward the Litter Warden visit the area at 5.00pm.

Ms. Maguire responded to say that SDCC cannot commit to that time due to resources but that Litter Wardens do visit the location, generally three times a week.

Mr. Eamon Harnett of the Environment Water & Climate Change department states that replacement of the missing bin at Church Grove will be discussed at the site meeting.

The Group state that the play area is also a litter issue and ask that the Community Employment Scheme workers in Tymon Bawn Community Centre be utilised for this?

Mr. Brian Carroll from the Housing Social & Community department explained that SDCC has no control over the Community Employment scheme run by Tymon Bawn Community Centre.

Mr. Harnett stated that a scheduled inspection of playgrounds will be done on a weekly basis and as the inspection is being done a litter pick will be done at the same time.

The Group ask about relocating a bin closer to the playground.

Mr. Harnett replies to say that this could be discussed at the site meeting but that any change may take time due to staff scheduling issues.

Item 4: Public lighting in Aylesbury

The Group ask for an upgrade of lighting columns to double headers at the following locations:

Two at Heatherview Lawn.

Three at Church Grove.

Four at Pineview.

Mr. Egan states that the site meeting will be an opportunity to look at existing lighting standards and making improvements. He will liaise with the Public Lighting section of the Land Use Planning & Transportation department after the meeting to progress the issue further.

The Group state that the public Garda for the area submitted a lighting survey, which he couldn't share with the Group due to Data Protection Regulations. The Group asked if someone confirm with the Public Lighting section if the report has been received.

Mr. Egan stated that he can check with the Public Lighting section if the report was received.

The Group expressed disappointment of the absence of the local Elected Members at the meeting.

Item 5: Commitments given at Deputation meeting

- 1) Meeting on site to be arranged and planting agreed – Oisín Egan.
- 2) More tree planting to be arranged. Lighting to be considered. Site Meeting to deal with footpath.
- 3) Concerns expressed to be dealt with by Litter Warden – Mary Maguire.
- 4) Missing bin to be replaced – Eamon Harnett.
- 5) Playground to be monitored and a weekly inspection take place – Eamon Harnett.
- 6) Site meeting to take place to deal with lighting proposals – Oisín Egan.

Commitments read by Cllr Charlie O'Connor and agreed by all.