

DEPUTATION MEETING REPORT

Date & Time **24th April 2019 @ 2pm**

Deputation Group: **Adamstown Cricket Club**

Councillors Present	Cllr. Liona O'Toole, Cllr. Paul Gogarty
Apologies	Cllr. Breda Bonner, Cllr. Francis Timmons
Deputation	Muthu Periyanan, Sanjeeb Barik, Santosh Nair and Peter Thew.
Council Officials Present:	
David Fennell	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Brian Carroll	Housing Social & Community Development
Carol McDonnell	Housing Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Liona O'Toole.

Items discussed:

- 1) **Standard of Cricket pitch at Corkagh Park.**
- 2) **Request for an on-site toilet facility at Corkagh Park.**
- 3) **Access to Corkagh Park for Emergency vehicles.**
- 4) **Commitments given at Deputation meeting.**

The group give a presentation which describes the background of Adamstown Cricket Club. The group explain that they are planning on expanding the number of teams playing with the club. The group show several slides with photographs of their current facilities. The group explain that they have two containers, neither of the containers have lighting. The group explain that without the proper playing or toilet facilities, the club will not be able to move forward as a club.

Item 3 - Access to Corkagh Park for Emergency vehicles.

The group explain there have been incidents in the past where ambulances would have to be called to treat injuries sustained by players when playing cricket. The club do not have access to the keys of the gates and the club were unable to let the ambulance through these gates. The group are requesting access to the keys, this would be mainly to allow access for the Emergency Services.

Mr. David Fennell, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, Environment department replies to the group explaining that there are currently two barriers into the park from the Green Isle Road and both barriers would have to be passed to drive a vehicle into the park. The barrier nearest the Green Isle Road has been automated and a system is in place and the barrier can open & close automatically. It is proposed that the second barrier will be automated within the current year therefore removing the need for keys. The work will start on site as soon as machinery is available to put trenches in and put electricity cables in place. A contractor is already in place to put

the required mechanism on the barrier. Once the mechanism is in place the need for keys would be removed and replaced by possibly imputing a number on a keypad, using a key fob or by ringing a phone number. Mr. Fennell explains that keys are generally not given out to clubs for car parks.

Cllr. O'Toole asks if there are restrictions on who gets access to the codes or will a written agreement be put in place?

Mr. Fennell replies to say that the details need to be worked out but whatever system is chosen must be as robust as possible.

The group ask if there is any timeline in place for the works to be carried out.

Mr. Fennell hopes that the works will start in May.

The group ask if they can be involved in the process of deciding who has access to the system.

Mr. Fennell replies to say that the details still need to be worked out and finalised.

Commitment – New keyless barrier to be put in place – David Fennell.

Item 1 - Standard of Cricket pitch at Corkagh Park.

To improve the standard of the cricket pitch the group ask that the frequency of the grass cutting is increased, machinery to be procured to achieve this and that the manhole cover is removed from the 2nd pitch. The group state that there has been no progress on these requests since they last met with Council Officials. The group also request if they can cut the grass themselves with their own machinery which they would store on site.

Mr. Fennell replies to say that there are two manholes on pitch 2 and these manholes cannot be moved or changed. Mr. Fennell explains that pitch 2 is looked on by SDCC as a training pitch and the condition of the pitch cannot be guaranteed because of rabbits digging holes on the pitch. Mr. Fennell says that further to previous conversations, there had been talk of scarifying the pitch, a contractor has been engaged and the works may have to be done off season. It is hoped the works will be done in May. Mr. Fennell explains that the grass is currently cut with a 20-foot mower, this could be changed to using an eight-foot mower and reducing the height of the cutting. The grass is currently cut to 19 millimetres, but Mr. Fennell understands that the club would need to be down to 15 millimetres and that height would be the target. Mr. Fennell explains that alternative machinery will be used, and the frequency of cutting will be increased. Other options are also being considered. Mr. Fennell also states that he would not be in favour of the group bringing their own machinery.

The group ask about the machinery for grass cutting that had been discussed at a previous meeting.

Mr. Fennell explains that SDCC had planned on hiring a specific piece of machinery but at that time the machinery was not available.

Commitment given - Contractor to be engaged in May to carry out work on the pitch – David Fennell

Item 2 - Request for an on-site toilet facility at Corkagh Park.

The group explain that there are visiting teams that come to Corkage Park to play cricket and there are children and ladies in these teams. The group feel that the current situation is not suitable. The group ask if their club could have use of the toilets located at the fishing cabin.

Mr. Fennell replies to say that there are already toilet facilities in Corkage Park which are located beside the SDCC depot. These toilet facilities are approximately 300 meters away from the cricket pitches. Mr. Fennell stated that he had inspected the toilets recently and they were in a decent condition at the time. These facilities are available when the park is open and are seen as adequate facilities. Mr. Fennell also states that the toilet facilities at the fishing cabin are not available.

Commitment – a review of the cleansing of toilet facilities to be carried out – David Fennell.

Commitments given:

- 1) New keyless barrier to be put in place – David Fennell.
- 2) Contractor to be engaged in May to carry out work on the pitch – David Fennell.
- 3) A review of the cleansing of toilet facilities to be carried out – David Fennell.