

**Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)**  
**Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**Attendees:** David Turner (Chair/interim Secretary), Joan MacArthur; Niall McElroy; Jeremy Humphries; Irene Duffy Lynch; Liam Handy; Kristin Hadfield; Dr Patrick Smyth;

**Apologies:** Margaret Brindley; PJ O’Gorman; Mark Wheeler; Karl Anderson

**Welcome and Agenda Overview – Chair**

- **Key Activities/Events** – over the period
  - EPA response o the sewage discharges to Merrion beach
  - Jack Torpay Award
  - Dublin Bay Bill - 2nd Dàil debate, held awaiting detail of the outcome
  - Website development started
  - Flood Defence – forthcoming meeting agreed with OPW Minister Patrick O'Donovan

**Special Topics - DISCUSSION**

**Website Development Project - JH**

- Project Team established : JH / DT / KH / KA
- Move from existing Word Press based site to new less complex and more fit for purpose platform
- Opens out the digital management, Admin, Posting etc across the Committee, reduces costs, enables committee self sufficiency
- Included amongst the detail to be decided, will be landing pages reflective of the Sub-Committee structure, owned by each lead/coordinator
- Skills “Teach-In” to be included; Paypal Linkage; Email Address set up etc etc
- To remain draft until developed
- ALL supported and agreed **Action : Project Team Meeting to set up next steps JH**

**Treasurer Report – JH**

- Comprehensive overview given of current status, demonstrating a viable position for SAMRA (€16,501.22 in current account)

**Membership Report – DT**

- Database continues to be maintained and current status of 207 Membership Entries, which includes the range of categories but approximates to households estimated to be ~10% of the catchment

**AGM – DT**

- Agreed to defer a date in March. Date to be set at next CM in January

**FUN DAY – Date to be set at next CM**

**“Sandymount Village Plan” – (N McE)**

- SC Meeting to be held : NMcE / KA / JH / MW
- Proforma and Date for 2023 Covanta launch – Action DT

**BY SUB-COMMITTEE (Reports by Exception)**

- **Planning & Development : NMcE**
  - **Planning Application** : There are no new in the area of interest to SAMRA
  - **Sandymount Ave apartments** – ABP meeting re-scheduled for February **NMcE**
  - **Glass Bottle Site** : SAMRA has continued to monitor progress paying particular attention to the developers commitments now formally given on (1) Transportation Access and (2) Environment
  
- **Transportation & Access :**
  - **Bus Stops** : Ongoing dialogue between DCC who are liaising with Bus Connects, response promised Action JH
  - **Footpath parking** : Letters to all councillors have been sent. Debated at SEAC, proposing “Pay and Display” **Action KH**
  - **Bus Service** : concern that the early morning #18 Bus Service may have been dropped Action PS to clarify status
  
- **Membership : PJOG**
  - Kristin Hadfield confirmed her lead on the Membership SC going forward
  
- **Flood Defence/Sewage Discharge : DT**
  - **Sewage Discharge to Merrion Beach** : The previously agreed action was completed and a formal complaint was submitted to EPA on 4/11. Response considered to be inadequate. **Action DT to forward response for committee input / advice**
  - Meeting with OPW Patrick O’Donovan regarding expediting the Strand Rd enhanced flood defences facilitated by Cllr James Geoghegan for 14h December. SAMRA attendees DT / NMcE
  
- **Website/Facebook/Social Media – Karl**
  - Facebook
    - A key action is for all available committee members to become sufficiently adept to enable posting **Action – to organise a training event**
  
- **Community**
  - **Jack Torpay Award (DCC Sean Moore Awards Event)** : SAMRA award for Anthony Jordan, made by DT was well received. Request for attendance to be opened out in future across SAMRA members who are largely unaware of this important event taking place **Action : DT**

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **AOB**

- Proposed Christmas Social Drink : Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December, details to be communicated **Action : DT**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

## SAMRA Actions Log

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
<b>New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting</b>			
1.	Website Update	JH	To convene Project Team meeting
2.	Jack Torpay	DT	To request broad attendance a future events
3.	Fun Day	DT	January Agenda Item
4.	AGM	DT	Defer to March; January Agenda Item
5.	Christmas Social Drink – 19 <sup>th</sup> December	DT	Details to be forwarded
<b>Ongoing Actions</b>			
6.	Facebook organise a Committee Training session to enable ALL to post	KA	
7.	Membership & Subscription alignment – to streamline the process	JH	
8.	Pedestrianisation		Future Agenda Item
9.	Bus Stops – lack of Planning	JH	Representation into SEAC via Councillors
10.	Membership Drive – News4 Ad	PJOG	
11.	Membership Drive – proposal to be emailed across Committee	PJOG	Way Forward - Meeting with local groups
12.	Pavement Parking Report	KH	Set up Meeting with DCC/Councillors
13.	Martello Tower	DT / IDL	Reinvigorate the conversation and maintain SAMRA connected interest
14.	Flood Defence progression - meeting with Patrick O'Donovan TD and Minister of State for the Office of Public Works	NMcE	

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15.	Task Force - Further meetings with local TDs to be arranged.	DT	Consider meeting with IW
16.	Martello Tower	NMcE	An update on the contact between DCC and the owner is to be pursued.
17.	SAMRA - 12 Month Priorities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
18.	Lorna Kelly Memorial Plaque/Bench – Village Green	MB	
19.	Groups to be approached as a more efficient way of gathering new members	Membership SC – PJ	
20.	Strategy Note	Strategy SC	
21.	Strategic meetings : Jim O’Callaghan	DT	
22.	Strategic meetings : Ivana Bacik	DT	
23.	Letter of thanks to Fun Day Donors	DT	
24.	Future YEATS Day Events	DT	Email to JL
25.	Membership SC – potential use of WhatsApp for greater connectivity	DT	Zoom meeting with David Kelly to glean his similar experience
26.	Website development	KA/JH/DT	To call meeting to set up plan forward
27.	Forward Calendar template set up	MB / ALL	
28.	Odour detectors – future agenda item	JH	
29.	Dublin Democratic Planning Alliance (DDPA) – a. ....Request for map of SAMRA physical boundaries required	LK	

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30.	Flood Risk next steps to expedite DCC to initiate phase 1 construction and Phase 2 planning	SH	As per DCC position paper
31.	SAMRA Green Notice Board update	Tba	
32.	Establish Update SAMRA position paper to Pedestrianisation Report	Stephen Hurley	
33.	Beach erosion and sewage incident – forward plan required for public health hazard events	<b>DT</b>	
34.	Proposal as a future action to engage local schools for a new SAMRA LOGO <b>Action supported but post AGM2022</b>	<b>tba</b>	
35.	Post Meeting request – to send Committee Member photo (as required) for updating of website Committee details	<b>ALL</b>	
36.	Architectural Heritage	<b>NMcE</b>	Facilitation of Sandymount survey
37.	Cycle route	<b>NMcE / DT</b>	Write a position paper which addresses the Strand Road traffic whilst incorporating the Off-Road solution, combined with Flood Defence needs
38.	SAMRA Logo for use on letter heads – develop options around the Village green and circulate committee (8/12)	DT	Action transferred following EL departure from committee
39.	PA – YMCA sale application	<b>NMcE/EL/LK</b>	Establish status and consider SAMRA steps
40.	<b>Secretarial Role candidates - Resource a Secretary for SAMRA</b>	<b>DT</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
41.	Communication & Media Needs of SAMRA (28/09)	DT/ALL	Agenda item

<b>No.</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>SAMRA Lead</b>	<b>Latest Status</b>
42.	Constitution Update (09/11)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
43.	Dublin Port Development Plan – reclaim land proposal by DP (08/12)	LK/EL	Circulation of a proposed letter to Committee
44.	Write to owner of Martello Tower requesting visit for SAMRA	DT / local councillors	Update provided by Dermot Lacey w/c 8 June.
45.	Engagement regarding Poolbeg Incinerator	TBC	No progress to report. Potential future actions: EPA meeting / review Notifiable Incidents report
<b>Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)</b>			
46.	Cycle route – Success/Failure Criteria	DT/Nmce	Pending High Court Decision
47.	Membership Data Gaps	JMcA/DT	
48.	Sandymount VDS Village Project Programme	DT/NMcE	To meet with DL and establish a way forwards
49.	DCC Dev Plan – biosphere protection	LK	Will request support if needed in drafting
50.	Pembroke Quarter – establish Sub-Committee	NMcE	
51.	DD Alliance – re-zoning list to be sought from Councillors	NMcE	
52.	Dublin Port 3FM : Media publication of SAMRA 31 <sup>st</sup> submission	DT/KA	
53.	Establish a Chair/Lead of Dublin Port 3FM sub-committee	DaveT	
54.	Response to DCC letter	SH/Flood Risk SC	Letter to DCC
55.	Glass Bottle Site - Point of Planning Legal clarification required	NMcE/LK	
56.	Footpath parking discussion – future agenda item	KH	
57.	Cycle Route announcement	DT/KA	Proposal made for single entity integration initiative across the 3 Strand scopes of work.

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58.	Facebook account	DT	Awaiting contact with Anne Benzeiger
59.	Raw sewage spills to Merrion Beach ongoing and inadequacy of DCC action	SH / Sub Committee	Formal letter of complaint to EPA
60.	SAMRA/TT - responsibilities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
61.	Pavement Parking	KH	Letters/representations to remaining 4 Councillors
62.	Christmas Carol – Sounds of the Sea	DT	To discuss with TT and put Ruth Dalton in contact
63.	Codling Bank Windfarm	DT/PJOG	Stakeholder Meeting to be set up
64.	The Living Street	NMcE	Concept to be overviewed with SAMRA Committee
65.	Glass Bottle Site	NMcE	Progress Meeting with Developer
66.	Pedestrianisation area – requested improvements	DT	Letter to be circulated to Main Committee CLOSED
67.	Village Plan – outline scope with Architects	NMcE	Awaiting response to enquiry
68.	“Pop-Up Gaeltacht” language speaking events - proposal	IDL	Advised that it will not be pursued
69.	FOI Requests	MB	In progress – awaiting responses
70.	Tom Clarke Bridge Grant	MW	Decision not to pursue
71.	Sandymount Apartments	NMcE	To prepare a SAMRA “Submission”