

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)
Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 12th September 2022

Attendees: David Turner (Chair/interim Secretary), Joan MacArthur; Irene Duffy Lynch; Margaret Brindley; Niall McElroy; PJ O’Gorman; Kristin Hadfield; Mark Wheeler; Liam Handy;

Apologies: Karl Anderson; Stephen Hurley; Michael Duncan

Guest (p/t) : Dr Patrick Smyth

Welcome and Agenda Overview – Chair

- **Key Activities/Events** – over the period
 1. CDP Material Adjustments Submission : 22nd August
 2. Letter to public representatives : 31st August; Call for Task Force
 3. Pavement parking Questionnaire and analysis
 4. 2nd Edition of Summer Newsletter

- Stephen Hurley has elected to retire from the Committee. Warm thanks are recorded to Stephen for his wise counsel and considerable contribution throughout to SAMRA over the last 4 years

New Business – Letter to Elected Representatives : Call for Task Force

- **Responses of support have been received from :** Ivana Bacik TD; Chris Andrews TD; Jim O’Callaghan and Councillor Dermot Lacey
- This call will continue to be pursued in all available opportunities

New Business - Proposal : “The Living Street” – SAMRA Resident Dr. Paddy Smyth -

- An interesting proposal regarding a changed concept of how shared space may be utilised

"A living street is a street designed primarily with the interests of pedestrians and cyclists in mind and as a social space where people can meet and where children may also be able to play legally and safely. These roads are still available for use by motor vehicles, however their design aims to reduce both the speed and dominance of motorised transport. This is often achieved using the shared space approach, with greatly reduced demarcations between vehicle traffic and pedestrians. Vehicle parking may also be restricted to designated bays. "

- The presentation/overview was the 2nd occasion before the committee and was well received albeit with numerous questions, some of which could not be immediately answered. However, it was agreed that the concept has real merit but the rules and selected streets for application will require careful consideration to enable it to work in Sandymount. It was agreed that this concept should be discussed with Councillors and DCC Roads/Traffic department as a way forward. **Action : DT**

New Business - Pavement Parking

- A questionnaire had been devised, issued and analysed with report circulated, including a geographical map of roads of impact. Several residents had written directly to SAMRA also and it had become very clear that :

1. Pavement parking is an issue for a significant number of residents
 2. Some form of action is needed to enable safe passage and access for pedestrians, children, buggies and disabled wheelchair users
 3. The problem is complex and there would be unforeseen consequences if traffic parking regulation was to be applied absolutely and in isolation, without some other provision. Pragmatic application will be needed.
- It was concluded that discussion with DCC Roads and Traffic would be the best way forward, presenting them with the report and to hold a discussion with their accountability and expertise central to selecting the optimum actions. **Action : DT/KH**

New Business – Martello Tower

- This issue was resurrected from previous conversations and it was agreed to re-visit status, following reports of renewed interest by DCC. It was agreed to rekindle this conversation, via Councillor Lacey, given the iconic effect that SAMRA believes the Martello Tower could have along the Strand. **Action : DT**

BY SUB-COMMITTEE (*Reports by Exception*)

- **Planning & Development : NMcE**
 - **Sandymount Ave apartments** – further submission by SAMRA is to be considered following review of the latest correspondence: **NMcE**
 - **Glass Bottle Site** : SAMRA will continue to monitor closely. Meeting expected October
Action : **NMcE**
 - **City Development Plan (CDP)** – Submission following review of the Material Alterations was made on 22nd August. **Action : NMcE** Meeting with local Councillors in Sept/early Oct
 - **Village Plan** – Discussion is proceeding positively with local Architects to consider the development of conceptual plans to improve the village and its relationship with the Bay. The next steps are to formalise around an agreed scope **NMcE**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- **Ivana Bacik Townhall Public Meeting** : 7pm 13th September; Sandymount Hotel. SAMRA to register solid support for the Dublin Bay initiative being piloted through the Dail

AOB

- **Tom Clarke Bridge Grant** – to be considered for suitable candidates. Closing Date 30th September **Action Mark Wheeler**
- SAMRA/Tidy Towns Responsibilities – A Draft Listing has been circulated for comment and will be presented back to the Committee following receipt of inputs and discussion with Tidy Towns **Action : ALL/DT**
- Forward 12 Month SAMRA Priorities : Proposed Listing circulated across Committee for comment. This is a listing of key deliverables for SAMRA over the next 12 months. Following receipt of comment, will be presented back to the committee **Action : ALL/DT**

PROPOSED DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Monday 3rd October 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Monday 28th November 2022

SAMRA Actions Log

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting			
1.	M'rtello Tower	DT / IDL	Reinvigorate the conversation and maintain SAMRA connected interest
2.	Pavement Parking Report	DT/ KH	Set up Meeting with DCC/Councillors
3.	The Living Street – Meeting with DCC	DT / PS	Set up meeting with DCC/Councillors
4.	Sandymount Apartments	NMcE	To prepare a SAMRA “Submission”
5.	Tom Clarke Bridge Grant	MW	
6.	SAMRA/TT - responsibilities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
7.	SAMRA - 12 Month Priorities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
Ongoing Actions			
8.	Lorna Kelly Memorial Plaque/Bench – Village Green	MB	
9.	“Pop-Up Gaeltacht” language speaking events - proposal	IDL	
10.	Groups to be approached as a more efficient way of gathering new members	Membership SC – PJ	
11.	FOI Requests	MB	In progress – awaiting responses
12.	Strategy Note	Strategy SC	
13.	Village Plan – outline scope with Architects	NMcE	Awaiting response to enquiry
14.	Strategic meetings : Jim O’Callaghan	DT	
15.	Strategic meetings : Ivana Bacik	DT	

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
16.	Pedestrianisation area – requested improvements	DT	Letter to be circulated to Main Committee CLOSED
17.	Raw sewage spills to Merrion Beach ongoing and inadequacy of DCC action	SH / Sub Committee	Formal letter of complaint to EPA
18.	Letter of thanks to Fun Day Donors	DT	
19.	Future YEATS Day Events	DT	Email to JL
20.	Membership SC – potential use of WhatsApp for greater connectivity	DT	Zoom meeting with David Kelly to glean his similar experience
21.	Facebook account	DT	Awaiting contact with Anne Benzeiger
22.	Website development	KA/JH/DT	To call meeting to set up plan forward
23.	Forward Calendar template set up	MB / ALL	
24.	Cycle Route announcement	DT/KA	Proposal made for single entity integration initiative across the 3 Strand scopes of work.
25.	Footpath parking discussion – future agenda item	KH	
26.	Odour detectors – future agenda item	JH	
27.	Glass Bottle Site - Point of Planning Legal clarification required	NMcE/LK	
28.	Dublin Democratic Planning Alliance (DDPA) – a.Request for map of SAMRA physical boundaries required	LK	
29.	Response to DCC letter	SH/Flood Risk SC	Letter to DCC

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
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.	Dublin Port 3FM : Media publication of SAMRA 31 st submission	DT/KA	
33.	Establish a Chair/Lead of Dublin Port 3FM sub-committee	DaveT	
34.	Establish Update SAMRA position paper to Pedestrianisation Report	Stephen Hurley	
35.	Beach erosion and sewage incident – forward plan required for public health hazard events	DT	
36.	DD Alliance – re-zoning list to be sought from Councillors	NMcE	
37.	Proposal as a future action to engage local schools for a new SAMRA LOGO Action supported but post AGM2022	tba	
38.	Post Meeting request – to send Committee Member photo (as required) for updating of website Committee details	ALL	
39.	Architectural Heritage	NMcE	Facilitation of Sandymount survey
40.	Cycle route	NMcE / DT	Write a position paper which addresses the Strand Road traffic whilst incorporating the Off-Road solution, combined with Flood Defence needs

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
41.	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
42.	Pembroke Quarter – establish Sub-Committee	NMcE	
43.	Membership Data Gaps	JMcA/DT	
44.	DCC Dev Plan – biosphere protection	LK	Will request support if needed in drafting
45.	Sandymount VDS Village Project Programme	DT/NMcE	To meet with DL and establish a way forwards
46.	PA – YMCA sale application	NMcE/EL/LK	Establish status and consider SAMRA steps
47.	Secretarial Role candidates - Resource a Secretary for SAMRA	DT	Ongoing
48.	Cycle route – Success/Failure Criteria	DT/Nmce	Pending High Court Decision
49.	Communication & Media Needs of SAMRA (28/09)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
50.	Constitution Update (09/11)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
51.	Dublin Port Development Plan – reclaim land proposal by DP (08/12)	LK/EL	Circulation of a proposed letter to Committee
52.	Write to owner of Martello Tower requesting visit for SAMRA	DT / local councillors	Update provided by Dermot Lacey w/c 8 June.
53.	Engagement regarding Poolbeg Incinerator	TBC	No progress to report. Potential future actions: EPA meeting / review Notifiable Incidents report
54.	Contact Martello Tower owner to explore future plans	SH / DT	Outstanding action, awaiting progress report from Councillors..

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)			
55.	Establish case for SAMRA backing to Ivana Bacik Dublin Bay Bill	Dave T	
56.	Survey – Autumn, ahead of strategy note	KH tbc	
57.	CDP – 2 nd SAMRA submission by 31 st August	NMcE	Assistance may be required
58.	The Living Street – forward power-point and organise a repeat with a full committee	DT	Presented at August CM
59.	Seamus Heaney Bust Repairs	NMcE	completed