

Sandymount & Merrion Residents Association (SAMRA)
Minutes from Committee Meeting dated 9th January 2023

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

Apologies: Jeremy Humphries; Liam Handy; Dr Patrick Smyth; Michael Duncan

Welcome and Agenda Overview – Chair

Key Activities/Events – over the period

- Flood Defence – meeting with OPW Minister Patrick O'Donovan and Jim Casey 14th December

Special Topics – DISCUSSION

- SEAC Motion 5 – Call for Task Force
 - As a peripheral outcome to the OPW Flood Defences meeting, this was discussed with POD and JC, receiving their support but stipulating that despite concerns expressed that it needed to be DCC, as the integration point.
 - JG developed SEAC Motion 5 for the 9th January meeting calling for ALL Party/Councillor support. Confirmed during the meeting to be fully supported.
 - Committee agreed to provide a response to assist DCC with the forward plan, emphasising the importance of the selection and independence of the Task Force Leader **Action KA**
- AGM
 - Set for Monday 27th March; FtF at the Sandymount Hotel **Action DT**
 - Next Meeting – revisit Lessons from 2022 and open detailed discussion **Action DT**

BY SUB-COMMITTEE (Reports by Exception)

- **Planning &Development : NMcE**
 - **Planning Application** : There are no new in the area of interest to SAMRA
 - **Criteria for SAMRA engagement** – to be subject of a future meeting **Action DT/NMcE**
 - **Codling Wind Farm** – reminder of presentation invitation set for Sandymount Hotel 10th January
 - **Village Plan** – CGLC Proforma and Date needed for funding submission **Action DT**
- **Transportation & Access :**
 - **Traffic data** – formal request sent to Councillors requesting gathering of traffic data, during the diversions caused by the Irish Water repair project, such that analysis and reporting will inform future decisions around the cycle routing. Post Meeting CONFIRMED
- **Flood Defence/Sewage Discharge : DT**

- **Sewage Discharge to Merrion Beach** : EPA Response to formal on-line complaint of 4/11 (Logged receipt) was followed by letter from Irish Water. This letter did not respond to the Public Health Hazard concerned and reported the complaint to be closed, despite the Complaint having been directed to Irish Water. The letter has been forwarded across the committee for discussion and advice : **Suggested Actions : DT**
 - **Registered Letter**
 - **Close Out with Irish Water**
 - **Write to EPA directly**
 - **Write to Public Health Authority**
-
- **Flood Defences Meeting** - 14th December at Leinster House convened by James Geoghegan between OPW Minister Patrick O'Donovan, James Casey; DT and NMCE from SAMRA for discussion of the status and reasons for lack of progress on Sandymount's Flood Defence project and principle concern. Briefing note on key points **Action NMCE**
- **Community**
 - **Fun Day** : Discussion regarding SAMRA's role in this : Questions/Views ::
 - Should SAMRA continue to run it or suggest to consolidate this with other TT similar event type activities, where similar processes and skills are required ? Implying SAMRA consolidates around "Planning and Strategic Issues" ??
 - Shared Event ??
 - VIEW : We need a Community Facing Event ?
 - VIEW : Not a good Membership/Fund Raising Event and we have only ~ 10% penetration in the area
 - SUMMARY : (1) To set a provisional date with DCC **Action Joan** (2) Send a note to TT to open discussions and share thoughts **Action DT**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AOB

- AUTISM /Neuro-Diversity Enquiry to SAMRA : Provisional response of support and awaiting details of what is entailed, what obligations etc BEFORE concluding **Action DT/ALL (future discussion)**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Proposed Monday 7th February 2023

SAMRA Actions Log

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
New Actions from Latest Committee Meeting			
1.	AGM – Prep and Lessons	DT	February Meeting Agenda item
2.	Planning Criteria	NMcE	Discussion/Re-fresh required
3.	Village Plan – CGLC Proforma	DT	Obtain and Forward to NMcE
4.	Sewage Discharge to Merrion Beach	DT	Appropriate response to EPA/Irish Water
5.	OPW Flood Defences Meeting	NMcE	Briefing Note
6.	FUN DAY	DT/All JMCA	To open discussions with TT To set a provisional date for 2023
Ongoing Actions			
7.	Jack Torpay	DT	To request broad attendance a future events
8.	Website Update	JH	To convene Project Team meeting
9.	Facebook organise a Committee Training session to enable ALL to post	KA	
10.	Membership & Subscription alignment – to streamline the process	JH	
11.	Pedestrianisation		Future Agenda Item
12.	Bus Stops – lack of Planning	JH	Representation into SEAC via Councillors
13.	Membership Drive – News4 Ad	PJOG	
14.	Membership Drive – proposal to be emailed across Committee	PJOG	Way Forward - Meeting with local groups
15.	Pavement Parking Report	KH	Set up Meeting with DCC/Councillors

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
16.	Martello Tower	DT / IDL	Reinvigorate the conversation and maintain SAMRA connected interest
17.	Flood Defence progression - meeting with Patrick O'Donovan TD and Minister of State for the Office of Public Works	NMcE	
18.	Task Force - Further meetings with local TDs to be arranged.	DT	Consider meeting with IW
19.	Martello Tower	NMcE	An update on the contact between DCC and the owner is to be pursued.
20.	SAMRA - 12 Month Priorities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
21.	Lorna Kelly Memorial Plaque/Bench – Village Green	MB	
22.	Groups to be approached as a more efficient way of gathering new members	Membership SC – PJ	
23.	Strategy Note	Strategy SC	
24.	Strategic meetings : Jim O'Callaghan	DT	
25.	Strategic meetings : Ivana Bacik	DT	
26.	Letter of thanks to Fun Day Donors	DT	
27.	Future YEATS Day Events	DT	Email to JL
28.	Membership SC – potential use of WhatsApp for greater connectivity	DT	Zoom meeting with David Kelly to glean his similar experience
29.	Website development	KA/JH/DT	To call meeting to set up plan forward
30.	Forward Calendar template set up	MB / ALL	
31.	Odour detectors – future agenda item	JH	

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
32.	Dublin Democratic Planning Alliance (DDPA) – a.Request for map of SAMRA physical boundaries required	LK	
33.	Flood Risk next steps to expedite DCC to initiate phase 1 construction and Phase 2 planning	SH	As per DCC position paper
34.	SAMRA Green Notice Board update	Tba	
35.	Establish Update SAMRA position paper to Pedestrianisation Report	Stephen Hurley	
36.	Beach erosion and sewage incident – forward plan required for public health hazard events	DT	
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
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

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
42.	PA – YMCA sale application	NMcE/EL/LK	Establish status and consider SAMRA steps
43.	Secretarial Role candidates - Resource a Secretary for SAMRA	DT	Ongoing
44.	Communication & Media Needs of SAMRA (28/09)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
45.	Constitution Update (09/11)	DT/ALL	Agenda item
46.	Dublin Port Development Plan – reclaim land proposal by DP (08/12)	LK/EL	Circulation of a proposed letter to Committee
47.	Write to owner of Martello Tower requesting visit for SAMRA	DT / local councillors	Update provided by Dermot Lacey w/c 8 June.
48.	Engagement regarding Poolbeg Incinerator	TBC	No progress to report. Potential future actions: EPA meeting / review Notifiable Incidents report
Completed Actions (to be refreshed and deleted monthly)			
49.	Cycle route – Success/Failure Criteria	DT/NMcE	Pending High Court Decision
50.	Membership Data Gaps	JMcA/DT	
51.	Sandymount VDS Village Project Programme	DT/NMcE	To meet with DL and establish a way forwards
52.	DCC Dev Plan – biosphere protection	LK	Will request support if needed in drafting
53.	Pembroke Quarter – establish Sub-Committee	NMcE	
54.	DD Alliance – re-zoning list to be sought from Councillors	NMcE	
55.	Dublin Port 3FM : Media publication of SAMRA 31 st submission	DT/KA	
56.	Establish a Chair/Lead of Dublin Port 3FM sub-committee	DaveT	
57.	Response to DCC letter	SH/Flood Risk SC	Letter to DCC

No.	Action	SAMRA Lead	Latest Status
58.	Glass Bottle Site - Point of Planning Legal clarification required	NMcE/LK	
59.	Footpath parking discussion – future agenda item	KH	
60.	Cycle Route announcement	DT/KA	Proposal made for single entity integration initiative across the 3 Strand scopes of work.
61.	Facebook account	DT	Awaiting contact with Anne Benzeiger
62.	Raw sewage spills to Merrion Beach ongoing and inadequacy of DCC action	SH / Sub Committee	Formal letter of complaint to EPA
63.	SAMRA/TT - responsibilities	DT/ALL	Input and present back for confirmation
64.	Pavement Parking	KH	Letters/representations to remaining 4 Councillors
65.	Christmas Carol – Sounds of the Sea	DT	To discuss with TT and put Ruth Dalton in contact
66.	Codling Bank Windfarm	DT/PJOG	Stakeholder Meeting to be set up
67.	The Living Street	NMcE	Concept to be overviewed with SAMRA Committee
68.	Glass Bottle Site	NMcE	Progress Meeting with Developer
69.	Pedestrianisation area – requested improvements	DT	Letter to be circulated to Main Committee CLOSED
70.	Village Plan – outline scope with Architects	NMcE	Awaiting response to enquiry
71.	“Pop-Up Gaeltacht” language speaking events - proposal	IDL	Advised that it will not be pursued
72.	FOI Requests	MB	In progress – awaiting responses
73.	Tom Clarke Bridge Grant	MW	Decision not to pursue
74.	Sandymount Apartments	NMcE	To prepare a SAMRA “Submission”

