

Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association Newsletter



www.sandycoveandglashule.ie

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Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association is thriving and active in the Sandycove and Glashule area. The main object of the Association is to promote the best interests of the residents of the area. We regularly publish this newsletter, which is distributed to 2,500 households in the area. The printing of this newsletter is paid for by members' subscriptions. If you are a member, thank you. If you are not already a member, please consider joining. An application form is enclosed with this newsletter.

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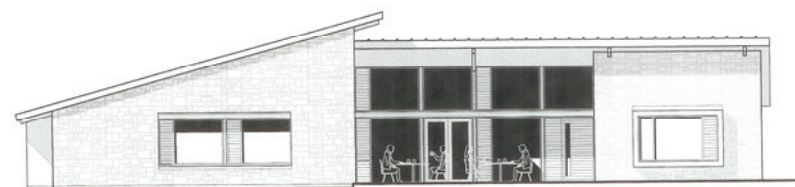
AGM 2006 Minutes

New Pastoral Centre

Proposed for St Josephs

The Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association has welcomed the announcement of the new pastoral centre proposed

for St Joseph's, Glashule. We have been informed that it is intended that the proposed pastoral centre will cater for a wide spectrum of needs from youth groups to senior citizens and will contribute significantly to the pastoral, cultural and educational activities in the parish.



The site for the proposed centre is to the rear of 22 and 23 Summerhill Road. The main entrance is to be from a new entrance courtyard shared with the church. The entrance hall to the pastoral centre will be a reception area which will also serve as a foyer-coffee dock and be the hub of the centre. The entrance hall will lead directly to the parish hall, meeting rooms, offices and sanitary facilities. All facilities within the centre are to be accessible to the disabled. The parish hall has been designed to cater for a variety of uses. It will accommodate up to 150 people seated. Meeting rooms will be grouped together and accessed directly from the entrance hall. The meeting rooms will vary in size and will cater for groups ranging from 10 to 30 people. The parish office will also be accessible directly from the entrance hall. Existing car parking arrangements will be largely unaffected.

RESIDENTS GATHERING

Date Thursday 19th October 2006

Time 8 pm

Venue Presentation College, Glashule

(entrance to the left of Presentation College opposite St Joseph's Church)

Charge €5 per person (to cover meeting expenses)

The evening presentation: we are delighted that the well-known local sculptor Imogen Stuart RHA will give a talk accompanied by slides entitled "60 years of Sculpture".

The Gathering will also be an opportunity for residents to hear about the latest developments in the area, to ask questions and to express their opinions.

ALL MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS FROM SANDYCOVE AND GLASHULE ARE WELCOME

If there are any topics you wish to be discussed at the Gathering please tell us by emailing info@sandycoveandglashule.ie or writing to The Secretary, Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association, c/o Mount Carmel, Sandycove Road

URSULA'S

BITS AND PIECES

David Ellard must be applauded for the interest he has in, and the way he looks after, the Eden Park Recycling Centre.

No Green Coast Award this year because of water quality levels. We hope for improvement for 2007 so Sandycove can be an award winner.

Dog fouling is still prominent. Take pride in your area. Offenders, please clean up after your dog. Poop-a-scoops are available free of charge at County Hall, Dun Laoghaire.

Success to Emma Gallivan, Dun Laoghaire Physiotherapy and Sports Clinic, who has commenced practice on Summerhill Road.

The Eagle House has been renamed Eagles House. We wish all well.

Our congratulations to Rasam on receiving both Georgina Campbell and Bridgestone Guide Best Restaurant Awards for 2006 and Cavistons winners of Checkout Best Fresh Award for their Fish Counter.

We wish Frank and Michael Quinn happy retirement, and welcome new owner Frank Jennings, undertaker, to Glashule.

We are all sorry to see Frees at Londis leave Glashule. We wish David and his staff success in their new ventures. Sinead is still here. She just moved next door to Bourke's Pharmacy.

The Contemporary Music Centre – Ireland's National Archives and Promotion Agency for New Music - celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year. Eva O'Kelly, the director is a resident of Eden Road.

We welcome Laura Olson, and her assistants Gen and Orla, to Stir in Sandycove and Glashule DART station. Besides sandwiches, rolls, etc you can get your daily newspapers there.

Angela Haskins is to be congratulated on the success of her coffee mornings and cake sales. Proceeds of two recent ones went to Father Shay Cullen for his work with the street children of Manila and Father Robbie McCabe, who runs a health Centre in Turkana, Kenya. We mention them as Fathers Shay and Robbie both grew up in this area. Angela and her team run these mornings for worthwhile projects, mainly in developing countries, on the last Sunday of the month. Be sure to call into St Joseph's Parish Centre and give your support.

We congratulate the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council staff, who in association with Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre organised Ecology and Coastal Walking Tours during the summer starting at the People's Park.

Well done to Margaret Browne and her Tidy Towns committee on the provision of a seat in Glashule celebrating life of Phil Donovan, who was instrumental in bringing children from Dunmore House to Glashule for Bloomsday.

At Eden Park Recycling Centre Margaret and her helpers have built a garden to remember the work of the late Anto Stevenson, seen by many as he kept the streets of Glashule clean.

Welcome to Christopher Byrne, the new "Anto" on the streets of Glashule and Sandycove. Be sure to say hello when you see him.

Denis Shine of Bourke's Pharmacy died as a result of a mugging he received while on holiday in Rio de Janeiro. He is greatly missed by many in Glashule. We offer our sympathy to Mrs Bourke, her staff and to Denis' family.

Welcome to Collum's Precious Designer Jewellery, relocated to Adelaide Road from Dun Laoghaire.

Toscana Italian Restaurant, Windsor Terrace, is rated as the best restaurant for 2006 in the Leading Restaurant Awards. Well done.

Achievements in Sport by some of our youth. We congratulate each of them. Jack McKenna, Rosmeen Park, and Donal Ennis, Ballygiheen Avenue, were selected during the year for the Under 15 Dublin GAA Training Panel. Paddy Cremin, Summerhill Road, was picked to attend the Rugby and French Training Camp in Biarritz. Felix Jones, Summerhill Road, gained his place on the Under 20 Leinster Rugby Team.

National Tidy Towns Awards

Congratulations to Margaret Browne and the other members of the Sandycove Tidy Towns Group for their hard work and interest in the area. They won an Endeavor Award and Commended County Award this year. Margaret and we appeal to owners of shops and private residences to keep the front of their premises free from litter. This is a legal obligation for businesses and a civic duty for residents.

Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association were pleased with the support from residents during the "National Clean Up" in Sandycove Harbour area led by the Tidy Towns Committee.



Gateway Sculpture

The Gateway Sculpture has been the subject of much ridicule and debate over the past year, and perhaps with good reason. I must admit I was surprised when I saw it first but then I inspected the long term plan at the Town Hall, and was pleasantly surprised.

As for me, this sculpture represents two great cupped hands symbolizing the backbreaking work which was required when building Dun Laoghaire Harbour. The lumps of granite, big and small, must number in their millions. Each and every piece had to be quarried, honed, and placed with the dexterity of an expert by an army of largely unknown workers. Most of it passed through this very 'Gateway'.

There aren't many memorials to these long forgotten men and women, so it makes me sad when I see the manner in which this defenceless monument has been treated by some politicians and vandals alike.

At the moment I will admit, it sits a little uncomfortably in its surroundings, but that will all change when the railway is covered over. We can then look forward to seeing what the artist can see now.

As you approach Dun Laoghaire from Dublin it is possible to see the Gateway Sculpture in all its glory, because in the morning mist the sun seems to be held aloft by those worthy hands. Then, only the other day while out walking I was delighted to see the moon being given the same loving treatment. A truly glorious sight for any tired eyes.

So for those, who like me, were surprised at the various outbursts such as: "The owner and developer who erected the Gateway Sculpture opposite the Council Building to have it removed and placed in a more appropriate site in the County" I can't think of a more appropriate place than where it is right now, where it belongs.

Ted Courtney

Dump it!

Surely the time has now arrived to remove and relocate the Gateway Sculpture on the Pavilion Plaza, which has now attracted ongoing graffiti. For years now, I have endeavoured to appreciate and be sympathetic towards this edifice. To be quite honest I find this to be an abomination and an insult to the population of Dun Laoghaire and its many visitors.

A motion was put by a Councillor some months ago to have it removed but the then County Manager stated that it would cost hundreds of thousands to relocate this sculpture. I suggest a much simpler solution; sell it off for scrap and let the purchasers use welding cutting equipment to remove it. The excuse was made for its retention when the original plan was made that the plaza would extend over the DART line and eventually a bridge would connect the Pavilion Plaza with the harbour side of the road. Nobody knows when that will be completed!

I would be pleased indeed if the County Council could advise what the intention is in the future in respect of this sculpture. The public are entitled to know.

I would like to congratulate the Culture, Community, Development and Amenities branch of DL and Rathdown County Council for all the wonderful things they have done throughout the Borough in the last number of years. I am sure when they eventually manage to get rid of this piece, they will come up with something appropriate and sympathetic for the bottom of Marine Road and the entrance to Dun Laoghaire to respectfully welcome our DART, rail, bus and sea visitors.

Bob Waddell

Last year the following resolution was submitted to the County Council by Councillors Mitchell O'Connor, O'Keeffe, Devlin, Ireland, Dillon Byrne and Bailey:

"We the Members of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council pursuant to Section 140 of the Local Government Act 2001 hereby require and direct the County Manager to take the necessary steps to have the Gateway Sculpture at the Pavilion Plaza removed and relocated by the donors and that this process, including consultation with the donors and sculptor, begins immediately."

Councillor Ireland requested that her name be removed from the Resolution and that was agreed.

The County Manager recommended that "the Section 140 resolution be not passed" in a report which contained the following summary:

The sculpture was commissioned and fully funded by the Pavilion developers who do not intend to have it removed or relocated.

The sculpture was specifically designed for the Pavilion space.

The sculpture is by Michael Warren, an internationally recognised sculptor. The Council has already expressed appreciation to Mr. Warren for this work.

The Section 140, if passed, cannot be implemented as funding is not available to the Council for this purpose.

Following discussion a roll call vote on the resolution was called for, the result of which was that 6 Councillors voted for, 15 against and 4 abstained. Local Councillors **Devlin, Dillon Byrne, Mitchell O'Connor and Regan** voted for the resolution to remove the sculpture. Councillor **Bailey** (one of the original proposers) voted **against**. There is **no vote** by Councillor **Ireland** recorded in the minutes.

Last month Councillor Mitchell O'Connor tabled the following motion:

"That this Council enters into negotiation with the owner and developer who erected the Gateway Sculpture opposite the Council Building to have it removed and placed in a more appropriate site in the County. At present this Art Sculpture is covered in graffiti and sits beside two telephone boxes that are completely covered in advertisements for a well known fast food outlet. This area in general does very little to compliment the great work being done by the Parks Department."

The Baths Saga



We must actively take an interest and keep an eye on what is happening on the Dun Laoghaire Baths site. With a majority vote, the outcome will be positive towards the plans proposed by the Committee of six local Ward Councillors chaired by Councillor Jane Dillon Byrne. It would be foolish to forget the fact that of the 28 Councillors who were contacted in mid 2005 as to how they stood on the then outrageous proposals for the Baths site, namely an eight storey private apartment block and a huge infill from the back of the Baths towards the East Pier, only **two** indicated that they were totally opposed to the plan with the others for it in varying degrees from "had not made up their minds" to being "enthusiastically for it".

The Voting Record

Indeed you will note from the voting record, that while all of Labour, Green, PD, Fine Gael and Independent eventually voted for the new plan, all seven Fianna Fail Councillors took a different viewpoint. Many Councillors are now taking credit for the fact that the original proposals did not go ahead and conveniently forgetting the campaign launched by Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association and the umbrella group Save Our Seafront which ultimately after numerous marches saw well over five thousand people take to the seafront in protest.

Our Local TDs

It is our opinion that while promises were made that decisions would be taken prior to September of this year, we feel that decisions will be kicked back until after the elections. None of the current TDs or potential candidates want to become embroiled in a new Baths saga. Deputy Eamon Gilmore (Labour) and Deputy Ciaran Cuffe (Green) spoke out against the original proposals right from the beginning and issued press releases which were in the public domain. Minister Mary Hanafin, who met with Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association and Save Our Seafront, likewise indicated that she was not in favour of the proposals. Fiona O'Malley (PD), was one of the first of the local TDs to come out against. However, in the case of Labour, Fine Gael and Fianna Fail Councillors, not all quickly followed this lead and some held out right to the end.

All kinds of excuses

Many Councillors are stating in press releases and public statements now that they were totally against proposals right from the beginning, while at the same time some Councillors have recently stated that they are still in favour of a private development on this site. Indeed, in Deputy Barry Andrew's newsletter regarding the Government's action on the Dun Laoghaire Baths, he states "for the record, my own position is that I welcome many aspects of the proposal subject to changes being made to the height and the number of apartments". Look at the Carlisle Pier development, which went out for public comment and where the choice of the people was totally ignored by the powers that be. We need to become ever vigilant for plans for the Baths and we should be pushing to see these plans finalised sooner rather than later. All kinds of excuses will be used to delay a final decision.

At the meeting of the County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin on Monday, 10 October 2005 the following motion was passed:-

"That this Council appoint a sub-committee to examine in detail the various options within the framework A to D before us this evening and the cost of each. The sub-committee should in the first instance consist of the elected Members of the Dún Laoghaire Electoral Ward and consult with outside bodies."

This sub-committee was made up of the six elected representatives from the Dún Laoghaire Electoral Area, namely Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne (Chair), Cllr. John F. Bailey, Cllr. Cormac Devlin, Cllr. Kealin Ireland, Cllr. Mary Mitchell O'Connor and Cllr. Eugene Regan. This group met on a regular basis to consider this matter and now make the following recommendations:

Mission Statement:

The Dún Laoghaire Ward Councillors wish to improve the public leisure facilities within the Major Civic Town of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

The Baths site on the sea shore presents a most wonderful opportunity to achieve this.

Design Considerations:

The Committee in its considerations met with Architects, Planners, a Marine Consultant, a Quantity Surveyor, the County Manager, Head of Finance and Senior Community Officer.

The design will complement the coastline and offer a modern local tourist attraction. The committee recognises that this is seriously required for this location.

The project will have no high rise or residential element.

The project will seek to enhance the existing built and natural environment.

Height of any development should be no greater than that which is there at present.

Any redevelopment shall include a public swimming pool of not less than 25 metres in accordance with Paragraph 4.4.7 (8) of the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Plan 2004 - 2010.

Design should be subtle and landscaped.

The following are agreed acceptable uses, restaurant, tearooms, civic space, marine related activities, alternative therapies.

Approach required to advance recommendations:

The need for breakwater, to be examined.

Investigate cost of lagoon option with no building.

Research developments on similar locations.

To view submissions of previous Competitions.

That the Committees report to the June County Council meeting be posted onto the DLR Website.

Work towards Public Consultation process from September, Public Submissions to be received ideally in written format only.

Funding for project be examined including the possibility of State Funding, EU Funding and Development Levy Funding.

Phasing of scheme:

It is recommended that a scheme be executed, possibly in three phases, for Beach Gardens and Baths, and further along the seafront to Sandycove Point.

A technical exploration to be undertaken by an expert company to measure need re: erosion, wave strength and power, and what is required to stabilise the area prior to development. Consideration could be given to the recreation of the beach, to running, walking, cycling and skating trails, to install outdoor exercise machinery, fountain and 'free of fee' public amenity areas to suit all ages, with particular emphasis on school children.

That a publicly owned Baths facility be developed on the old pools site. An outdoor/indoor swimming pool(s) and other possibilities such as gym, restaurant, tea rooms, spa treatments therapy, seaweed baths, marine related activities. That the retention of the existing portico entrance be considered and possibly refurbished and developed as a two storey building. Other ideas include small piers and jetties around the existing site be refurbished and re-instated to facilitate swimmers, canoeists, fishing folk, walkers/joggers, skaters, bird watchers, snorkelling, etc. and other leisure uses for people of all ages. Consideration should also be given for the provision of related cultural elements in keeping with the character of Dún Laoghaire.

Renovation and re-landscaping of the existing walk-ways and maritime gardens between the Baths and East Pier in an environmentally sustainable manner and without any unnecessary interference with the existing coastline beyond that absolutely necessary for the protection of the leisure amenity. That the entire walkway from the East Pier through (or around) the pools development along the seafront as far as Sandycove Baths/Point be upgraded and improved. Resurfacing of the lower walkway should be reviewed in conjunction with S2S and within the context of the Coastal Plan.

Conclusion The following are the Committees recommendations for the next steps to be taken for this project.

1. The technical exploration on wave activity should be carried out.
2. An application should be made to the Government for specific funding for the commencement of this redevelopment project.
3. That a sum for this project be included initially in the listing of projects for some financing within the Development Levy Scheme.
4. Finally, the public consultation phase should commence. The Committee should be involved in the preparation of the public consultation process.

Abject failure of County Council to properly provide for waste bins



This photograph shows a common and utterly disgraceful sight on the seafront. Quite clearly the overflow (and therefore almost certainly all or virtually all the contents of the bin) consists of small items discarded by passers by.

Earlier this year County Council management stated: *"The provision of litterbins in the County is managed by Parks Department and Environment Department as part of litter control programme. There are a number of bins in Newtownsmith — Bulloch area and these are emptied on a regular basis. In recent times these bins have been used by certain members of the public who opt to use such facilities for household waste disposal. The public also can play their part in controlling litter by disposing of minor items of waste in their own household bin if a litterbin is not located conveniently."*

The attempt by County Council management to blame the problem on misplaced household waste is not credible and, in any event, not acceptable since this is a problem for the County Council to solve whatever the root cause. We would be interested in receiving any opinions residents may have on this topic.

The photograph was sent to all six of our ward Councillors. Councillor John Bailey responded by thanking us for bringing this important matter to his attention. Councillor Bailey forwarded the photograph to John Guckian, Senior Executive Officer in the Council's Environmental Services Department and asked Mr Guckian to revert back to him regarding this issue. At the time of going to press we are not aware of any further developments.

Covered in cigarette butts

I had an occasion recently to bring some American visitors from San Diego on a tour of Dublin and Dun Laoghaire. We visited many places of interest including Croke Park on the Sunday where Tipperary and Waterford provided an exciting spectacle of our national sport of Hurling. My visiting guests were very impressed indeed.

However, just recently we visited the Pavilion Theatre, and again they expressed their admiration. On arrival, we climbed the steps on the seafront side and on exiting descended the steps on the Marine Road side. These were just covered in cigarette butts. I presumed this was one of the occasions that our excellent sanitation department people had not as yet arrived. However, two days later, the litter was still in place and yet all around the Forty Foot bar, Marine Road itself and the seafront was spectacularly free of litter. Is there some problem as to who has responsibility for the upkeep of these steps?

I would be pleased if the County Council would be kind enough to bring us up to date on the situation.

Bob Waddell

DESPITE BOB WRITING TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL ABOUT THIS ON 1ST AUGUST HE STILL HAS NOT RECEIVED A REPLY

ILLEGAL DUMPS

The Environmental Protection Agency, the County Council and the Gardai are seeking information on illegal dumping in our area. If you have information, phone: **1850365121**

ACCESSIBILITY FOR EVERYONE

NO PARKING ON FOOTPATHS FAIRNESS-COURTESY-RESPECT

This is the slogan of the County Council's campaign to prevent parking on the footpath. While residents are warned of "zero tolerance" on parking enforcement, visitors appear to be permitted to park anywhere they want with impunity, with no concern for the safety or convenience of pedestrians. The photograph below was taken after the "zero tolerance" warning was issued. We would be interested in receiving any opinions residents may have on this topic.



QUESTIONS FOR OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

While the Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association will bring out one more newsletter prior to the election in 2007, we feel it would be appropriate at this moment in time to address certain questions to each of the local TDs and potential TD candidates. We would ask them to respond to Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association so that we may publish their responses in our next newsletter. These responses should be short and to the point. The way that we layout our questions should enable them to respond in this manner.

Dun Laoghaire Baths Site

Where exactly do you stand in relation to the latest proposals on Dun Laoghaire Baths agreed by the six local Ward Councillors and included in this newsletter?

Are you totally against private development on this site?

If you are elected and are in power, will you provide the necessary funding for the latest proposals?

Will you abide by the height restrictions, namely no more than two storeys high?

St Michael's Hospital and St Colmcille's Hospital

Where do you stand in relation to St Michael's Hospital in Dun Laoghaire and St Colmcille's Hospital in Loughlinstown?

Do you believe that these hospitals should be retained?

Do you believe these hospitals should receive adequate funding for the future and be recipients of modern technology?

Presentation College, Glasthule and Grounds on Hudson Road

Where do you stand in relation to Presentation College building in Glasthule and the grounds on Hudson Road?

Will you see to it that the building is maintained and used as a suitable educational or similar facility?

Will you see to it that the Hudson Road grounds are not given over to private development but used as

sporting and recreational facilities for the area?

Policing of the Area

What will you do to ensure that the increase in unsocial behaviour, including graffiti, which takes place along our seafront and indeed on the roads and laneways of the area is monitored and curtailed?

Planning

What will you do to ensure that Sandycove and Glasthule maintain their *village status* and ensure that the planning which flies in the face of local opinion is prevented?

Litter

What would you do to counteract the litter problems, particularly during the summer months in the area, some of it due to infrequent collection of rubbish and the non-availability of waste bins at key places?

Public Convenience Availability

Apart from the People's Park which opens during certain hours and the single urinal at Sandycove, there are no public toilets in the area and that goes for most of Dun Laoghaire. What will you do to

Apart from posing these very legitimate questions in this newsletter, we will formally write enclosing a questionnaire to each of our potential Dail candidates. We would urge you, as candidates commence their door stepping, that you in turn keep this newsletter and ask them where they stand on these questions. Please advise us of any additional questions that you would like us to bring to the politicians' attention.

YOUR WARD COUNCILLORS

NAME (PARTY)	ADDRESS	HOME	OFFICE
BAILEY, John F. (FG)	Kilmore, Killiney Road, Killiney, Co. Dublin	086-8186701 Fax: 2854129	Email: jbailey@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
DEVLIN, Cormac (FF)	St. Michael's, 117 Glenageary Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin	2750786 cormacdevlin@ireland.com	086-8186814 Email: cdevlin@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
DILLON BYRNE, Jane, (LABOUR)	Silchester House, Silchester Road, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.	2801624	086-6078150 Email: jdbyrne@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
IRELAND, Kealin, (GREEN)	Eglinton Cottage, Tivoli Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin	086-3881535	Email: kireland@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
MITCHELL O'CONNOR, Mary (PD)	31 Maple Manor, Cabinteely, Dublin 18	086-8186725	Email: mmoconnor@cllr.dlrcoco.ie
REGAN, Eugene (FG)	Brighton Lodge, Brighton Avenue, Monkstown, Co. Dublin	Tel: 2809417 Fax: 2802116	086-8186733 Email: eregan@cllr.dlrcoco.ie

Residents Object

Congratulations to the residents who set up a protest committee, called Glashule at the Crossroads, to fight the proposed high-rise apartment developments at St Brendan's and the former Post Office. At time of going to press, the site at St Brendan's has been refused planning but



no doubt this decision will be appealed. Congratulations especially to Chairperson Anna Comerford and other committee members. It is incumbent upon residents in the area to keep their eye out for planning applications. We have just successfully ob-

jected to the increase in height on the old Forum Cinema site. If this had gone through, it would have set a precedent for other buildings in the Sandycove and Glashule area and set back our attempts to get village designation for Sandycove and Glashule.

Glashule and Sandycove are perceived as villages and apartment blocks are not part of the scenario. We urge residents of Sandycove and Glashule to be ever vigilant in order to prevent greedy developers seeking approval for increased density in our area, which already suffers from low water pressure and traffic congestion.

Martin McNamara of Glashule at the Crossroads is shown here graphically demonstrating, by means of helium balloons, the proposed height of the St Brendan's development.

The Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association urges residents to form their own local committees to lobby their Councillors and County Council officials on issues which arise in their own specific area.



Our Local Gardai

The Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association would like to extend a welcome to Superintendent Martin Fitzgerald, the recently appointed Garda "Supremo" for the Dun Laoghaire area, including Sandycove and Glashule. Superintendent Fitzgerald has offered to meet with us. Please let us know of any issues you wish us to raise.

We also take this opportunity to congratulate our local Gardai for the extremely professional policing off the recent Festival of World Cultures, and in particular Sergeant Paul Roche, and Community Guard John Paul Durkin.

Increased Garda presence during the summer months at Sandycove Harbour and along the seafront was evident – keep it up!

Greater Dublin Bay Alliance

Refusal of Councillors and TDs to respect the wishes of the majority of residents leads to new broad-based alliance

The Greater Dublin Bay Alliance has recently formed as a direct result of concern coastal communities have for the proper planning, protection and management of the coastal corridor from Ballbriggan to Kilcoole. The region and coast are very much part and parcel of a single policy planning area; so much so, that the reclamation of 37 acres at Greystones Harbour will have a knock-on policy effect on the rest of the coastline as will a Manhattan style development in Dublin Port or the recent proposal to reclaim 300 hectares of coastal waters at Sandymount. The Alliance of coastal communities from Portrane to Kilcoole recognises the democratic deficit in the public consultation process when making plans for individual areas. This deficit combined with global warming, rising water levels, depletion of scarce resources, especially habitat and green space, will contribute significantly to the loss of amenity to the public unless a vision for the region is established.

The **Greater Dublin Bay Alliance** comprises:

Fairshare, Portrane
Clontarf Residents
Sandycove & Glashule Baths Action Group
Irish Seal Sanctuary
Sandymount and Merrion Residents
Friends of Booterstown Marsh
Save Our Seafont
Greystones Protection and Development Association
Coast Watch
An Taisce, Dun Laoghaire
Combined Residents to Save Open Spaces.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006 MINUTES

*Held on 30th March 2006
at Presentation College,
Glasthule, at 8.00pm*

The Chairperson, Ursula Maguire, opened the Meeting by welcoming a large attendance. She then called for a moments silence in remembrance of those members of the Association who had died in the past year. She thanked all members of the Committee, who met on a monthly basis, and in particular the forty volunteers who had delivered four editions of the Newsletter, including the special edition to coincide with the Baths protest, and called for more helpers to spread the load of delivery.

Dun Laoghaire Baths

She said it had been a very busy and exciting year, particularly with the controversial plans produced by DLRCo.Co. for the redevelopment of the Dun Laoghaire Baths site, and the consequent protests, in which the Committee were very involved, and which eventually led to the withdrawal of those plans, and the setting-up of a committee of local councillors who were still looking at viable alternatives for the Baths site.

Planning

In Planning, the Committee had kept an eye on the Link Road/Newtownsmith site in particular and had made an excellent submission objecting to the proposed plans, which were eventually rejected. However there were now two new sites to be observed at Adelaide Road, although no planning permission requests had yet been posted on these sites.

County Council

The Association had made submissions on behalf of residents to

DLRCo.Co. regarding Traffic Management and Parking Controls, Resurfacing of roads and pavements and Recycling. At least one member of the Committee attended the monthly Council Meetings.

Minutes of 2005 AGM

The Minutes of the AGM, held in 2005, had been printed in the May edition of our Newsletter. It was proposed by Paul Martin and seconded by Bob Waddell that these Minutes were accepted and passed.

Financial Report

The Treasurer, Paul O'Callaghan, presented the Financial Report, which showed that the income for the year amounted to €3,806, which was made up of Annual subscriptions and contributions from members at the December 2005 meeting. The total expenditure amounted to €3,424.52, the main bulk of which was the cost of producing three Newsletters in 2005.

Committee

Election of new Committee Members : Eamonn Buckley and Ted Courtney were duly proposed and seconded and elected to the Committee. The Chairperson paid tribute to all the fine contributions, and work, made by former Committee members Wesley Curran and Chris O'Malley, who had recently resigned from the Committee. Particular mention was made of the very successful Childrens' Art Competition, which was organised by Chris O'Malley.

Annual Awards

Awards: The ceremony of presenting the SGRA Awards took place:

Best Commercial premises: Formality Gardens

Best Pub/Restaurant: Tribes

Best Shop Window: Choice – for Bloomsday

Garden Awards:

Large Garden: 24, Dundela Park – Winnie and Michael Hill

Small Garden: Rockingham, Burdett Avenue – Gilly Kennedy



Window Box: 16, Findlater Street – Catherine Blennerhasset

Special Awards: Beaufort and Forty Foot.

Councillors

The three councillors present (others had sent apologies) Jane Dillon Byrne, Kealin Ireland and Mary Mitchell O'Connor addressed the meeting, and spoke of their efforts on different aspects on behalf of the residents of the area.

Open Forum

Over a welcome glass of wine the meeting was then thrown open, and many topics were raised, in particular (1) the lack of replacement of height barriers in Eden Park; (2) the Recycling Centre in Eden Park; (3) when were Brown (composting) Bins being introduced?; (4) was there a traffic plan for Adelaide Road?; (5) the present route of the No. 8 bus and the residents' preferred route through Glasthule; (6) the maintenance of the garden at Otranto Place, and (7) an interesting debate on the pros and cons of the Gateway/Archway sculpture in Dun Laoghaire.



NEXT RESIDENTS GATHERING ON THURSDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2006—SEE FRONT PAGE FOR DETAILS

The views expressed in this newsletter are based on editorial decisions broadly reflective of the policies decided by the committee of the Association and should not necessarily be attributed to any individual committee member unless expressly attributed to a named committee member.