

Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association

May 2019

Newsletter

Circulation 2,500

20th Anniversary Edition



Annual General Meeting
Monday 27th May 8pm
St Joseph's Pastoral Centre
ALL WELCOME

ISSN 2565-6333



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Dear Resident

Wow. What an amazing area we live in. Have a look at the front cover! I'm sure it's not just me that thinks that. Apart from the beautiful surroundings it's great to be part of a vibrant community with so many activities trying to improve life in Sandycove and Glashule.

It's 20 years since this newsletter started dropping into homes and businesses all over this area. Thank you to our loyal newsletter distributors. If you would like to help out please contact any member of the committee, send us an email or tick the box on your membership application form.

Thank you to the candidates in the local elections who answered our questions. We look forward to working with the elected councillors.

There's an article by John Elliot on former SAGRA chair Bob Waddell on page 5. I'd like to pay my own tribute to Bob. He was such a human dynamo - active, enthusiastic, engaged, so interested in the area. I find it hard to believe he's gone. I'm still expecting another envelope from Bob with the latest material for the newsletter to come through my letterbox.

Bob was a big fan of Bloomsday. It's on a Sunday this year. With some sunshine Sandycove and Glashule will be even more incredible.

I look forward to meeting you at our AGM on Monday May 27th.

Regards

Liam Madden

Chairperson

Unless expressly attributed, 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.

Annual General Meeting

Our residents meeting will be held on **Monday May 27th at 8pm** in St Joseph's Pastoral Centre.

All members and prospective members are welcome.

Subs 2019/2020

Membership subscriptions are due at AGM time and valid until the following AGM. You will find an application form in this newsletter. A form can also be downloaded from our website.

Membership dues are unchanged: €15 for individual and €22 for household membership.

You can renew your membership at the AGM. To speed processing, please have the form filled in and payment ready.

You can also drop the form and payment into Eamonn's Bookshop, Sandycove.

Payment by standing order will be particularly welcome. A form can also be downloaded from our website.

You can also pay direct to our bank account:
Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association
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Please give your name as a reference so we know you've paid.

Advertising

If you are interested in advertising in our November (Christmas) edition please email editor@sandycoveandglashule.ie or phone Liam on **086 804 6938**.

We have a policy of only accepting advertising from those based locally.

Contact Us

Email: info@sandycoveandglashule.ie

Post:

**c/o Eamonn's Bookshop,
50 Sandycove Road,
Sandycove.**

SAGRA Committee

Chairperson: Liam Madden

Secretary: Kay Gleeson

Treasurer: John Elliot

Other committee members (in alphabetical order):

John Conroy

James Howley

Roger Courtney

Trevor King

Grainne Dempsey

Mary Roche

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Residents Meeting 26th November 2018

Liam Madden, Chairperson of the Association, opened the meeting by welcoming all. Among those present were Richard Boyd Barrett, TD, Councillors Ossian Smyth, Cormac Devlin, Michael Merrigan, Mary Fayne, and Melisa Halpin. Apologies had been received from Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, Councillors Patricia Stewart, John Bailey and Dave O'Keeffe.

Liam introduced **Sgt. James Malone and Garda Angela Murray**, Community Gardai. James gave a short presentation on how we can all try to prevent burglaries, particularly over the dark Winter months. He advised that owners should take photos of all valuables, and not to have money in their houses. "Lock up and Light Up" was advisable, using time switches for lamps etc. Car owners should lock their cars when left unattended as there had been unlocked cars stolen overnight in the area in recent months. He lamented the fact that there seemed to be less "nosey Norris" people around who could look out for their neighbours and who would suspect strangers hanging around the area! He warned people of bogus callers coming to houses. James and Angela answered several questions from the audience. The number of Dún Laoghaire Garda Station is 01 6665000 and we were advised everyone to ring at any sign of trouble. Liam thanked them for their presentation.

Liam mentioned that the Association holds **three meetings per year** – the AGM on the last Monday of May, the Residents Meeting on the last Monday of November and the Neighbours Evening in September.

He then introduced the other members of **the current committee** – John Conroy, John Elliot, James Howley, Trevor King, Mary Roche and Kay Gleeson. Roger Courtney and Grainne Dempsey were unable to attend.

Liam thanked all our **distributors of the Newsletter**, and said that without their help the Newsletter would not have such a wide readership. He reminded everyone that in 2019 we would be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the newsletter. A special Newsletter would be published to mark the event.

He said that the **local elections** for the Council would be held next year, in May, and that the association would be asking candidates questions and publishing their replies.

He mentioned that **Otranto Park** now seems to have become Sandycove Park, following on the refurbishment by DLRCoCo!

The Baths site project is going full steam ahead, but it looks like it will take many months before it is finished. Work has commenced on Hudson Park, and it is hoped it will be completed quickly.

He asked everyone to remember to **"Shop Local"**, particularly over the coming weeks.

The Church would be reopening again next Sunday after a prolonged period of restoration of the floor.

He thanked **Eamonn Buckley** for all his help, over many years, in stocking the Newsletter, and acting as "p.o. box" for the Association.

Liam thanked Mary Roche and Patsy Ashe for, once again, organising a most enjoyable **Neighbours Evening**. This year members of the Dún Laoghaire Men's Shed gave a presentation of their work in restoring a derelict building and turning it into a welcoming place for their work and recreation. A presentation on all the activities that are carried out in the Pastoral Centre was also given.

The meeting was then opened to questions from the floor. The theme of **traffic and parking on the footpaths** was raised. Such parking is illegal, but it is very prevalent in the area around Sandycove Harbour/beach, particularly at the weekends, even in Winter. A lively discussion took place!

The proliferation of **signs at the beach** was discussed. There was consensus that there were far too many of them, a lot were irrelevant and most were ignored by the general public.

The recent **plastic spill** on the Baths site was discussed, and it is expected that bits of plastic will continue to litter the area for some time to come. Flossie Donnelly and her team of beachcleaners are to be commended for highlighting this problem, and keeping it to the fore in the media. They have done a wonderful job.

The subject of the **"moving" bicycle stands** was raised, and it seems that near the Forty Foot the stands were placed in one area, and were then moved to a nearby location. The new stands which are appearing in many places around the county are to be welcomed. It does, however, bring up the question as to when the Sutton to Sandycove bicycle route will finally reach our area.

There is no sign of the **Outdoor Gym** being moved from its present location despite many calls from the Association to have it moved.

Anne Marie Lucey outlined a judicial review she and her husband are taking against An Bord Pleanála's decision to grant **planning permission for 50 apartments** on approximately 3 acres on the grounds of Castle Park School. Richard Boyd Barrett offered to talk to her later about it.

The matter of 5 bed 3 storey houses was raised, and while welcomed by some, the **lack of smaller houses** where people could downsize to in the area was also mentioned.

The lack of good **broadband** in the area was again mentioned, with no solution in sight.

The **takeover of the Harbour Co.** by the Council was discussed at length, with several people quite frustrated by the lack of a plan for the Harbour, nevermind for the town itself.

Imogen Stuart mentioned her wish for her sculpture to be erected in the renovated park in Sandycove. James Howley, is in touch with her about the stone required, etc., and advised us all that funding would be needed to get the project up and going, and finished within a reasonable time.

The meeting ended with Liam inviting all present to join the committee with the usual refreshments.



In Memory of Bob Waddell



Bob Waddell, a long-time and well known resident of Sandycove, sadly past away earlier this year.

He was a member of the committee of the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association for over 15 years and served as Chairperson for three years from 2002/03 to 2004/05. When I was Chairperson for the first time I was

very struck by Bob's enthusiastic participation from the floor at our twice yearly open residents' meetings. I encouraged him to join the committee, and he was an active and committed member from the very start.

As I neared the end of my time then as Chairperson, I was sure Bob would make an excellent successor. I knew he had recently retired as Chief Executive of Gowan Group, and hoped he would feel he had the time and interest. Initially he politely declined, but minutes before the AGM that year started Bob approached me to say that he had had second thoughts as recently as at lunchtime that day, and would after all agree to put himself forward. He was elected Chairperson, and I became the Secretary, which remained the position for the next three years. We got on very well together, and I believe we made a great team during those years, in which Bob and I became very good friends, and remained so to the end of his life.

Many issues got Bob's attention in those days, but none more so than when in 2005 the then Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Manager announced a plan to build a high-rise apartment block on the site of the old Dún Laoghaire Baths, right beside the sea. To begin with most of the Councillors supported this idea, but Bob in particular, among others, saw the danger it posed to the whole character of this wonderful and unique stretch of coastline. Bob spearheaded the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association's leadership in the groundswell of community opposition. In conjunction with Save Our Seafront and a broad range of public opinion, both locally and from further afield, a powerful campaign of public opposition grew, involving three protest marches, the last of which drew around 4,000 people, and a petition with 15,000 signatures. The campaign was successful, and the County Council was persuaded to abandon the plan.

Bob continued his involvement in the activities of the residents' association after this, most notably in being a key contributor to what has become the flagship activity of the Association – our twice-yearly newsletter. Over the years he was the author of items on all manner of topics – effectively our "chief reporter". An article by Bob, most of which he did not seek credit for, would

usually involve him getting out and about and speaking to lots of people, for which he was well known.

For many years he was a very regular attendee in the public gallery of the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council chamber, keeping a watchful eye on proceedings on behalf of the Association and engaging with Councillors both before and after the Council meeting. At the County Council meeting following his death, many warm tributes to Bob were given by Councillors. He also became well known to many Council officials, both senior and frontline – all the time keeping to the fore the concerns of residents of Sandycove and Glashule.

He did not shy away from controversy or difficult issues, and was always true to his beliefs, most strikingly even when they were not universally popular. Issues he himself would particularly identify, looking back, would be the Baths, high parking charges, the poorly located outdoor gym, lack of public toilets, a proposed tax on outdoor cafés, neglect of the seafront, planning permission for badly located high buildings, inappropriate imposition of a one-way system, litter, neglect of Otranto Park, neglect of Sandycove baths, and the Lexicon (which in fact he latterly came to like).

He very ably represented the Association at the oral hearing held by An Bord Pleanála about the plans for a mega cruise liner berth at Dún Laoghaire Harbour. Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association was the only residents association to be represented there, thanks to Bob.



Bob retired a few years ago, after many years of much appreciated service to our community, as a member of the committee of the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association. However, he did not retire from activity in the community; he merely moved on to other things such as the Glashule and Sandycove Business Association, Save Our Seafront, C.A.R. - for retired members of the motor industry, chairman of his

year in Blackrock College, local 1916 committee and the Public Participation Network.

I wish to express my sincere and grateful thanks to Bob for his steadfast friendship and for all he has contributed to the community.

I will remember him for the rest of my life.

John Elliot

Twenty Years A-Growing

This current edition of the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association Newsletter marks an important milestone, as it is twenty years since the first newsletter was produced.

The idea to print and circulate a newsletter came within John Elliot's first term as Chairman, with the purpose of getting more residents involved and interested in the association that had become somewhat moribund during the mid 1990s. Having been founded in 1975 by the great Irish architect Michael Scott and others, the association was originally called The Sandycove Residents Association. Somewhere along the line it had become the Sandycove Seafront

and once regular turnouts of 70 or more became a feature the politicians were not far behind.

Quoting our circulation, which in the early days was 1,400 gave the newsletter a reasonable reach, even if residents chose not to read it – or considered it as junk mail. We would even have TDs and ministers in occasional attendance and if unavailable would send assistants to deliver their apologies. The power of the print was also demonstrated by good chairmanship from John who did not let the politicians showboat their achievements, if they were not relevant to the questions addressed to them.

problem of insufficient committee members. The issues are somewhat depressingly similar to those we continue to address – traffic, litter, dog poo, lack of activity in the baths site, but at least the latter has finally started. We were probably more active in planning objections in those days and the absence of several daft proposals for the baths sites and a rather inappropriate apartment block on the corner of the Link and Newtownsmith, are probably amongst our finer achievements. Ursula's Bits and Pieces was a long-running and popular feature that is missed.

Currently our website includes most newsletters from September 2002, by which time Cathy McGovern had revamped the format and we had a much more stylish design with photographs and a nice new title banner complete with sea urchin sculpture. Production standards took another leap forward when our current

volunteers, to whom we should all be very grateful. There are always places for more volunteers and new committee members and the newsletter is intended to represent the views of all residents, not just the committee.

We have come a long way from the four page, folded A3, black and white, illustration-free, first edition of April 1999, thanks to all of those residents who have contributed in print, design or distribution. So do let us know your concerns, do submit relevant articles of local interest for inclusion and if any of you find the first six or seven editions hiding in your attic – do please let us know.

James Howley



Residents Association and another initiative of John's first term was to change the name, getting rid of the rather elitist "seafront" reference and adding in Glashule for good measure.

The early newsletters were a rather pitiful affair (about which I can be unreservedly critical, as I produced them on our office photocopier) but they achieved our aims of getting more people interested and actively involved in the association. We were also quite careful about inviting good speakers like the artist/historian Peter Pearson to give a talk at the residents gatherings, which always insured a good turnout. At one of his talks we counted more than 90 people in attendance

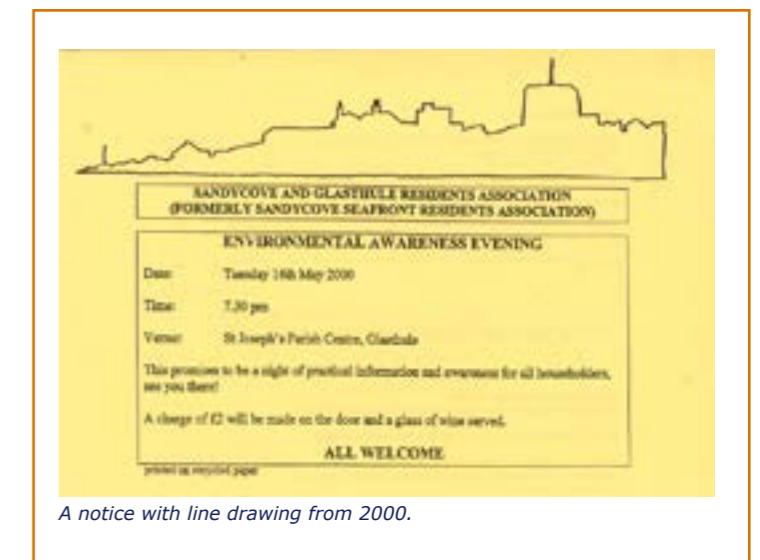
There were few frills in the early newsletters, apart from a line drawing of the profile of Sandycove Point – and unfortunately this has been lost, along with all the early editions that no one on the committee bothered to keep. I still have the text of most of the newsletters dating back to April 2001, which was the fifth edition, but not in the printed form. If anyone reading this has by any chance retained any early copies, please let us know as the Lexicon would like to have a complete set as an important source of local and social history.

The 2001 newsletter contains some interesting information about achievement within the second year of the "rebirth" of the association, with the chairman's review of 2000 noting the new name, inauguration of the Denis Burton memorial seat and the perennial

editor Liam Madden took over in 2011 and transformed the newsletter into the impressive, glossy, sixteen page delight that we enjoy today. These splendid publications are a tribute to Liam's skill as a designer and the high quality printing and paper that we can afford thanks to the generosity of all the local firms who are happy to contribute through advertising.

Selling advertising was an idea of John Conroy which Liam took on board. This initiative was one the committee always felt happy about as we very much see it as a remit to support all the wonderful shops, restaurants and other businesses most of us love and use in our neighbourhood.

Over the years our circulation has risen from 1,400 to 2,500 generously distributed by a merry band of



A notice with line drawing from 2000.

Dublin Bay Biosphere

I expect not many people living in Sandycove realise that they live in a biosphere, or the UNESCO designated - Dublin Bay Biosphere Reserve to be totally accurate. The term reserve is perhaps deceptive, because this concept is not so much about the imposition of restrictions to protect valuable natural heritage, but more about finding a balance. In this case between an intense population centre and the remarkable natural phenomenon that is Dublin Bay.

More than any other feature, Dublin Bay from Howth to Sandycove enriches, or has the potential to enrich the lives of all citizens of Dublin, and not just those fortunate enough to live close to the coast. We certainly mistreated the bay in the not so distant past with numerous dumping grounds expanding the coastline into the sea, into which we also pumped raw sewage from many different sources. When I moved to Sandycove the Sandycove Bathers were often complaining to the council about raw sewage being washed back to the coast from the outfalls, further out to sea. Thankfully all that has changed and the former dump at the West Pier is now reclaimed and supports a pumping station that sends our waste to the treatment plant, also on reclaimed land (another former dump) which is Poolbeg.

Dublin Bay is not just a remarkable natural resource, it also contains at its heart a city of half a million and much of our main infrastructure. From power generation and waste treatment to our docks, national oil reserve and more recently the incinerator, most of which projects out into the bay. The UNESCO designation recognises that we are making a better fist of looking after our bay, even though there is much we can still do to improve things even further.

Education and research, combined with interpretation and exhibition are all part of the biosphere remit, so that the public can understand the more subtle and delicate strands in our biodiversity, especially where threatened.

Les Moore, former Parks Superintendent at dlr, who we have to thank for many of our park improvements from Peoples Park and Killiney, to Cabinteely and many other projects is now Superintendent at Dublin City Council and has been instrumental in raising the profile of our wonderful Dublin Bay Biosphere. Last month he organised an international conference which attracted over 300 foreign delegates from biospheres around the world.

Les has also been pressing for the design and construction of a new visitors centre to provide the education and interpretation that biospheres need to help spread their message. Following a feasibility study carried out a few years ago, a design team, including



interpretive designers have been appointed through a limited competition to deliver the new building. The site for

the new building is at the end of the causeway (another former dump) leading to Bull Island, the “accidental” island that grew out of the sea from silt deposited after the construction of the South Bull Wall in the early nineteenth century. Located on the landfill approach, rather than on the delicate sand dunes of the island the building will include classrooms for school children, labs and offices for research students, an exhibition and a cafeteria to provide information about the entire biosphere from Howth to Sandycove and also inland.

Designs are in the early stages and public consultation has begun initially in the vicinity of the site. Later this will widen to take in other stakeholders and interested groups, of which there are many. From the swimmers, scuba divers, sailors, fishermen, kite surfers, dog walkers, kayakers – not to mention the tens of thousands that flock to the sea shore when the sun shines and the many that are equally drawn when the weather is less clement.

Dublin City Council has introduced a no parking regime on Bull Island, the beaches of which were once covered as much by cars as by people on a sunny day, which means that the wild driving lessons on the beach are a thing of the past. Bull Island is a delicate ecosystem, but it is also the playground of the northside and is also important as an amenity. The new Discovery Centre (as it will be called) – will aim to spread the message of “enjoy and respect” and the first step will be in helping people to understand what should be respected.

The long-awaited Sutton to Sandycove (S2S) Cycle Route is sadly still long-awaited on this side of the bay. We understand that it is now to be called the Dublin Bay Greenway consistent with the highly successful network of greenways that is growing around the country. At our last residents gathering last November we were told by one of the councillors that the proposals had been completed for the southern arc. The route will not extend right out to Sandycove but has been designed to terminate at the East Pier. Having been told that the designs would go on display for public consultation early in the new year, there has as yet been no sign, other than an announcement in February that €17.5m has been allocated for part of the route.



- The core zone comprises areas of high natural value. Closest to us would be Dalkey Island.
- The buffer zone comprises public and private green spaces which surround and adjoin the core zones
- The transition zone forms the outer part of the Biosphere.

In 2017 the 8.5km Clontarf to Sutton route was completed, after only twenty five years in the making. As a keen cyclist it pains me to say this – but I wouldn't be holding my breath. At least when the new Dublin Bay Biosphere visitors' centre opens we can take our bikes on the train as far as Clontarf and cycle the rest of the way round the northern sweep of the bay. In an age when the government is trying to promote cycling – and is, it should be acknowledged, doing very well, it would be good to see more serious investment in cycle paths. Especially if they are constructed in places as beautiful as the southern sweep of Dublin Bay. It may even encourage a few folks to leave their cars at home that would be popular with residents and visitors alike.

James Howley

Dún Laoghaire Harbour - An Opportunity for a New Start?

Recently the ownership and control of Dún Laoghaire Harbour passed from the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company to Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council. This should be a welcome change as it holds out the potential for a truly integrated approach to the planning and development of the harbour in conjunction with the town of Dún Laoghaire and the prospect of proper democratic input into decisions to be made. It should be an opportunity for a new start.

So far though there have been few signs of change and there are concerns that the management of the harbour is still as hidden from public scrutiny as it ever was and that we are just as much at risk of minimal public consultation and piecemeal planning as ever. It is a situation that needs to be monitored very closely to ensure that the public interest in free access to the harbour and sensible development for the benefit of the community as a whole is achieved. Hopefully, there will be good news to report on this front in the near future.



Dún Laoghaire Harbour

Seawater Baths at Dún Laoghaire?

Probably virtually nobody has missed the extensive works being carried out at Dún Laoghaire Baths behind the yellow boards. The restoration of the site is to be very much welcomed.

Recently there were indications that the County Council might be prepared to consider including in the restoration works the construction of seawater baths at the site. For a long time, many people have looked forward to the day when baths might once again be open to the public here. Seawater baths in particular would provide an excellent opportunity for people who are hesitant about swimming in the open sea to swim in sea water. Given the extensive works being carried out, it seems more than sensible to take the opportunity to add what would be a great facility for the public.

Very unfortunately, these early indications of this encouraging development may be too good to be true and may be proving to be unfounded. We are watching out carefully for developments.



Dún Laoghaire Baths Construction Site

Sandycove and Glasthule from the Air

Thanks to Paul Bushe for these amazing photographs.



The Harold School



Dún Laoghaire Baths



St Joseph's Church



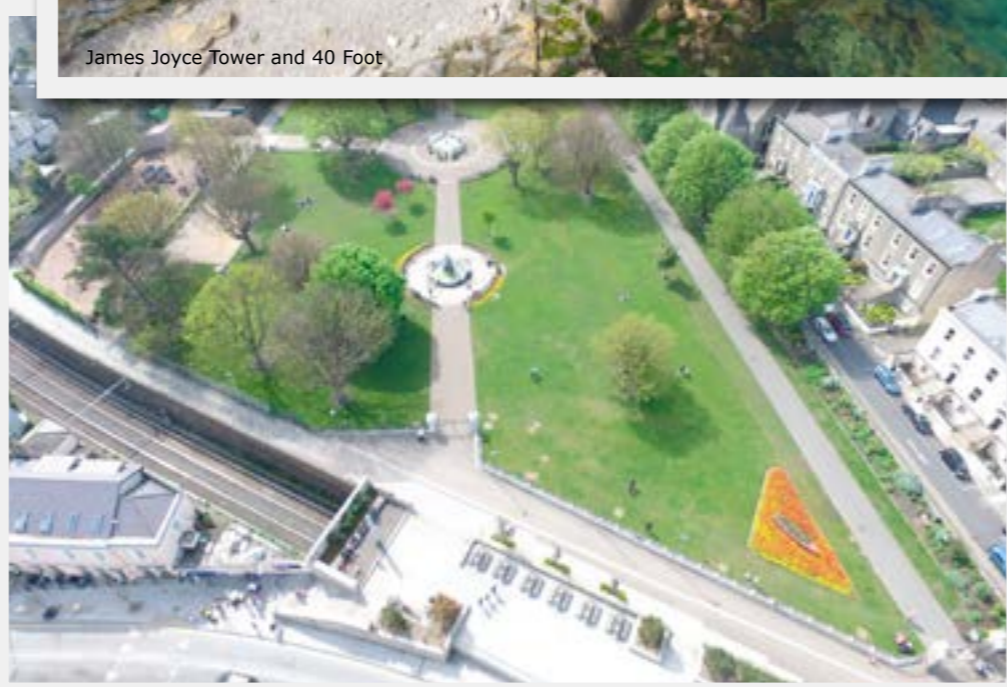
James Joyce Tower and 40 Foot



East Pier Dún Laoghaire



Otranto/Sandycove Park



People's Park Dún Laoghaire



Sandycove & Glasthule DART Station



Glasthule Road

In this year of local elections we look at

How Local Government Works

In Ireland local government is governed by the Local Government Act 2001 which was extensively amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

There are 31 local government areas and each one has a local authority. Sandycove and Glasthule is located in the local government area of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County is located on the east coast between the outer suburbs of Dublin City and the Dublin and Wicklow Mountains. **It has a population of approximately 218,000.**

There are 40 Councillors who are members of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.

Members are elected to a specific local electoral area and Sandycove and Glasthule is situated in the Dún Laoghaire Electoral Area which has 8 Councillors, **but that will reduce to 7 at the next local election on 24 May 2019.**

The elected County Council is the policy making forum of the local authority and exercises 'reserved functions' defined by law. The day-to-day management of the local authority is carried out by the executive consisting of full-time officials led by the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive advises and assists the County Council in the exercise of its functions. The Chief Executive is appointed by the County Council on the recommendation of the Public Appointments Service.

The range of decision-making vested in the officials is very wide and citizens are often surprised that Councillors have much less power than they expect.

Local authorities are responsible for wide range of services such as roads, traffic, planning, housing, economic and community development, environment, recreation and amenity services, fire services and the register of electors.



The local authority is a planning authority. It decides whether to grant or refuse planning permission for building and development in the local area. It also creates a Development Plan every 6 years, which sets out its planning policies.

Local authorities provide amenities and services for artistic and cultural activities, sports, recreational and leisure activities, libraries, civic monuments and heritage.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council employs around 1,200 staff.

A local authority's annual budget represents current expenditure covering the day to-day running of the local authority. The annual budget is adopted by the elected County Council. **The budget of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for 2019 is €184 million.**

Current expenditure is funded from a variety of sources, including charges for services, commercial rates, government grants, motor tax and the Local Property Tax (LPT).

Capital expenditure is financed mainly by State grants and also from development levies, borrowings, internal resources and property sales.

- Local authorities have power to charge for services which they provide - for example, housing rents, parking charges, planning application fees.
- Local authorities have a statutory obligation to levy rates on property used for commercial purposes. The levying and collection of rates are matters for each local authority. The Annual Rate on Valuation, which is applied to the valuation of each property to obtain the amount payable in rates, is decided by the elected County Council.
- Specific grants are paid to local authorities by government departments for particular services and schemes for example housing and road maintenance.
- The Local Government Fund is a central fund, the income of which comes from motor tax, the Exchequer and LPT. The Minister for Finance pays an amount equivalent to LPT collected into the Local Government Fund.
- 80% of LPT is retained locally to fund public services. The remaining 20% is redistributed to provide additional funding to certain local authorities that have lower property tax bases.
- Local authorities may vary the rate of LPT in their area by up to 15% of the basic rate. **The Taoiseach recently announced that local authorities will be given power to vary the LPT rate by more than 15%.**

Local elections 2019

The local elections take place on Friday May 24th. We asked the candidates for our LEA (Local Electoral Area) of Dún laoghaire the following questions:

- **What do you like most about Sandycove and Glasthule?**
- **What do you see as the biggest issue facing Sandycove and Glasthule?**
- **As a Councillor, what would you like to achieve for Sandycove and Glasthule?**

This is how they answered.

These are the candidates that are known to us at the time of going to print. The order of listing is random.

Cllr Michael Merrigan (Independent)

As a former "Pres Boy" with family connections to the area going back six generations, the unique character and ambiance of the area as a vibrant urban village with its own special part of Dublin Bay is unrivalled in the County and the determination of the residents and businesses to protect the area is impressive.

Demographic change, property prices, increased pressures to densify through in-filling and the potential redevelopment of central and some coastal locations all could seriously impact on the character of the area as an urban village with its well inter-connected neighbourhoods. In short, the protection of the unique character and ambiance of the area.

With increased pressures to maximise the developmental potential of the area. Protecting and conserving this urban village, its architecture, public realm, seascape and amenities, including the creation of a disability and age friendly environment, will certainly be my priorities during the making of the next County Development Plan which will commence next year.



Lorraine Hall (Fine Gael)

What's not to like! For me, it's the sensational sea views, fabulous shops, restaurants and cafes (most of which are independently owned & selling fantastic Irish produce), and the great community feel within the village. Glasthule Village is one of my favourite places to meet family and friends and to spend time in. More recently, I've gotten into the habit of jumping into the Forty Foot after a session in the local gym. Now that's a whole new experience for the senses!

Parking, parking, parking – and internet access!

If elected, I'd like to see Glasthule Village get a similar upgrade to what Monkstown got. I'd like to see more emphasis placed on keeping the village and surrounding areas clean and green, especially during peak summer! There's also an opportunity to better promote the heritage of the village, and I'd like to work closely with the community to solve the parking and internet issues the are currently struggling with.



Cllr Melisa Halpin (People Before Profit)

My absolute favourite thing is the proximity to the sea - going for a swim off the pier and having a coffee in Glasthule afterwards, especially early on a sunny summer morning.

Affordable housing is an issue. While many residents were lucky enough to buy homes here before it became totally unaffordable, it is now impossible for young people or for older people looking to downsize, to find a suitable place to live within their community. The climate emergency affects every corner of our globe. As our school children have shown - we all have a role to play.

I would like to see: The Baths site reopened WITH a pool for the public to use; The careful monitoring and cleaning up of the ongoing impact of the plastics leak from the Baths site. We need careful planning for the area that prioritises affordability; A recycling bin in the villages & water fountains, to reduce the use of plastics.



Cllr Mary Fayne (Fine Gael)

I love living in a coastal area, close to Dún Laoghaire, Sandycove beach and a village with its shops, restaurants and pubs, I have the opportunity to be a volunteer at the Joyce Tower. The close knit community spirit is an important part of my life.

People talk to me about a fear of crime in their homes and walking alone on their streets at night. Speeding cars are a problem in the village and some roads in the area.

As a councillor I have a special interest in sports, arts, and social amenities in our area as they contribute to our sense of community. I support the upgrading at DL baths and the inclusion of a seawater swimming pool. As a board member on the Pavillion theatre, I hope to continue to support the great work that goes into making it a great theatre. As Leas Cathaoirleach I've been privileged to meet many community groups, who selflessly give of their time to serve our community. The environment is a pressing issue and I will continue to press for initiatives that will help clean our seas, reduce single use plastic etc.



Valerie McDermott (Labour Party)

As someone from neighbouring Dalkey, I appreciate the way local residents in Sandycove and Glasthule take pride in their area and insist it's maintained to the highest standard for locals and visitors alike to enjoy.

The biggest issue facing the area is climate change which could lead to coastal flooding in the Sandycove area if mitigation efforts are not made. Local issues include maintaining roads and footpaths, housing affordability, tackling anti social behaviour and investment in safer cycling.

It is my intention to represent the people of Sandycove and Glasthule by seeking investment in local services and amenities including a cycleway to Sandycove and resources for local schools and by engaging with local residents and businesses on ways in which we can improve our villages.



Justin Moylan (Fianna Fáil)

Sandycove & Glasthule is a place I have known all my life with fond memories of the Forum Cinema and swimming in the Forty Foot with my family today. I like the overall sense of community and pride generated by residents and traders while preserving and celebrating the history and amenities of Sandycove & Glasthule.

Recent canvassing has highlighted two persistent issues in the area one is poor car parking the other is irresponsible dog owners and dog fouling. Dog fouling affects pedestrians but has a bigger impact on those using buggies, wheelchairs and mobility scooters. Increased enforcement by council dog wardens could assist in reducing and possibly eliminating this issue

I hope to achieve improved supports for local voluntary activities including Bloomsday and the fantastic beach clean ups conducted by Margaret Browne, Sandycove Clean Coasts and Flossie and the beach cleaners.



Juliet O'Connell (Labour Party)

Sandycove/Glasthule has a special place for me as I raised my daughter in the village. It has a unique community spirit and an admirable progressive attitude especially among the business community. The Green Glasthule initiative is so impressive.

Biggest challenges include: downsizing options, cost of housing, rental costs, supply, adult children raising their young families in their parents' homes.

If elected: I will nourish Glasthule as the ultimate Green initiative; I will encourage movement between Dún Laoghaire, Glasthule and Dalkey to create vibrancy; I will encourage stress free planning to help people downsize within their own homes; I will promote a clean beach and accessibility to our shoreline (baths swimming area); I will be an accessible local councillor. The development of the harbour needs to benefit our village. Together we need to stop our litter issues by providing enough bins for waste and recycling in order to hinder illegal dumping.



Cllr David O'Keeffe (People Before Profit)

The seafront along Newtownsmith is one of my favourite places in DLR I have some great memories from childhood of going to the baths with my mam and cousins and maybe getting a Teddy's after.

Accessibility on our seafront – We are blessed to have such an amazing coast in our area but some of the spaces remain out of bounds to people with disabilities. We in People Before Profit have campaigned to make our beaches more accessible and will continue to do so.

Single use plastics are a scourge on coastal towns and a huge issue in the summer time when thousands of people descend on the seafront. We won a motion to make DLR Ireland's first single use plastic free county and it's great to see steps taken locally in that direction.

I would like to see: The Baths site reopened with a public pool; Segregated public bins for general, recyclable, and compostable; Decent planning to ensure availability of affordable homes in the area.



Cllr Cormac Devlin (Fianna Fáil)

This is a beautiful, scenic area. We boast some of the best places in Dublin; the Forty Foot, Teddy's, Fitzy's, James Joyce Tower, Caviston's, the Eagle House & Rasam (food fit for Presidents!). I feel very fortunate to have represented here since 2004.

I believe planning will be a big issue over the next few years, particularly large scale infill plans. While Councillors do not have a direct say in the planning process, we are called upon for from time to time.

I successfully pushed for a children's playground in the Hudson Road Park. Justin Moylan & I would like to see more amenities in the area. There has been a noticeable increase in young families so it's important that we have the amenities to cater for both the young and the not so.



Dave Quinn (Social Democrats)

Sandycove and Glasthule are both parts of Dublin's and Ireland's most treasured villages, situated in a wonderful seaside location. They offer unrivalled natural beauty and enjoyment with rich artistic and political history throughout. Martello Tower and the seafront are particular favourites of mine. There is a real village buzz with the shops, cafés and restaurants all adding to the sense of community and enterprise.

The biggest issues facing both Sandycove and Glasthule include the need to maintain the sense of community in the face of many challenges. We need to nurture full social inclusion of all residents in a sense of ownership of their community. Maintaining a low crime rate via visible policing is a key part of promoting a sense of safety and wellbeing. Appropriate housing, recycling and protecting our environment are important aspects of everyone's involvement in our community.

As a Councillor, I would want to promote and achieve more social inclusion, and in particular, make sure that the needs of our vulnerable groups within our community are addressed - our older residents and those affected by disability.



Cllr Ossian Smyth (Green Party)

Sandycove and Glasthule enjoy both the serenity of a peaceful coastal neighbourhood and the vibrancy of a thriving village. Seashore meets promenade meets parks meet tree-lined avenues. There is a great community spirit with volunteer groups at the Beaufort Day Centre, or keeping the beach clean, or keeping the village plastic-free.

Last year's flooding warned us of the local risks of ongoing climate change. The coastline is likely to need protection in the future, strengthening the promenade and the rock armour to defend against rising sea-levels.

In future, the council should keenly maintain the swimming areas around Sandycove from litter and pollution. The new parks at Hudson Road and Otranto will be vital green amenities in this neighbourhood. The linear, seafront park at the former Baths will connect walkers from the East Pier to Newtownsmith and into Glasthule village. Lastly, we need enough housing within public transport range of Glasthule so that people can live near their families.



Cllr John Bailey (Fine Gael)

What I like most are the people, the community, the rich heritage and culture and the choice of recreational facilities that are available to all.

The biggest issue as I see it is preserving its environment and rich heritage, whilst enhancing the community accordingly.

I very much see my role as your CLLR as representing and conveying the community's views and suggestions and acting upon them appropriately. For the last 15 years I have represented this area as your CLLR with great pride and hard work and always being available all year round regardless of elections - work that I hope you will allow me to continue to do on your behalf.



Cllr Patricia Stewart to Retire

It is with regret that SAGRA has learned of Fine Gael Councillor Patricia Stewart's decision not to contest the local elections this May for dlr County Council. She has represented our area since March 2011.

Patricia was born in Scotland. In 1980 after marrying an Irishman she came to live in Ireland. She became an Irish citizen shortly after. She has been politically active at grassroots level since her student days in Edinburgh and took a keen interest in Irish politics,

As a councillor Patricia has been an excellent advocate for our area and has supported the Association on many occasions. Her sound advice has been welcomed, coming from well researched information and her own integrity. She is well liked and highly respected in the community and among the staff of the Council. Her diligence as a councillor is evident and she manages it all with a smile and kind word for everyone she meets.

Behind the scenes, largely unknown to most of her constituents, she serves tirelessly on many County Council committees. Often at our residents' open

meetings she would fearlessly explain apparently unpopular County Council policies. She either believed these to be right or believed should be seen differently when explained and understood. She did this from a position of thorough knowledge and without any obvious regard to the short-term consequences for how the public might see her. This only increased the respect in which she was held by many of her constituents. She will be missed a lot.

The committee of the Association wish her an enjoyable and active retirement.



Business News

There's quite a lot happening in the area. Sandycove has some new businesses. It's a pity the old Spar premises is still empty.

Lynda O'Connor has moved her florists **Bloomingdales** from beside Barnhill Stores to Sandycove.

Sculpture Aesthetic Clinic are opening in Sandycove offering Botox and other cosmetic procedures.

The Children's Clinic has opened in Sandycove. It is a specialist multi-disciplinary service supporting children and young people from all over Ireland from birth to 18 years.



After 25 years, **Sandcove Fine Arts** will be replaced by the **Wilton Gallery** which will be run by Robert Callow. Fiona O'Reilly will still maintain a presence in the art gallery with a display of silver & jewellery for sale. She will also sell through her website - fionaoreillyantiques.ie.

Cavistons hope to open their new premises in November. It will have a fish restaurant on the ground floor and a wine & sushi bar on the first floor.

All Alfresco have added The Wine Buff to their store.

We wish them all good luck in their ventures.



Going Green

It's now almost a year since **Glasthule & Sandycove Going Green** was launched. The aim is to be the first green village in Ireland.

Many Businesses have now signed up to the initiative. Look out for the stickers which indicate what actions they are taking. For example many have switched to compostable containers, cups and cutlery. They're also asking suppliers to cut down on their packaging and are stocking products that are organic and local. Businesses are encouraging the community to get involved.

You can find more information on Facebook and Instagram at **@GlasthuleSandycoveGreen** or you can email campaign coordinator Dr Ruth Doyle at ruthdoyle@gmail.com.



What you can do

- Keep an eye out for compostable items and put them in your compost or brown bin. If they go in the regular recycling bin they can't be recycled and if they go in with general waste, they produce carbon emissions.
- If you haven't done so already, start your own composting area.
- Bring your own bags for food and goods. You can even bring your own small bags for loose fruit and vegetables.
- Bring your own containers for meat, fish or deli food.
- Bring your own coffee cups and avail of discount on your coffee.
- Be conscious in your purchasing choices. Support products available in stores that have low packaging, are organic, fair trade and local.

Local Winners at Southside Community & Sports Awards 2019

The award ceremony took place in the Talbot Hotel Stillorgan on April 26th.

Congratulations to Cavistons and Baker Street in the "Business in the Community" category .

Congratulations to Flossie Donnolly who won the "Young Community Person" category and was the overall winner.

Cuala Person of the Year

Congratulations to Trish Madden who was awarded Club Person of the year 2019.



Trish Madden with Dervla Madden, Eleanor Moore and Bláithín Lane

Competition Time!

Thanks to Pavilion Theatre Dún Laoghaire we have 2 tickets to give away to **'The Alternative'** on **Tue 24 September 2019**.

To enter, answer the following question:

In what year did the Easter Rising take place?

- 1912
- 1916
- 1922

Email (with subject "SAGRA Competition") your answer to lisa@paviliontheatre.ie by Friday June 14th.

Winner will be chosen at random and contacted directly by the Pavilion. Best of luck!

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Pavilion Theatre

Sat 15 & 16 Jun The Simon & Garfunkel Story
Tue 18 Jun Frascati Singers Summer Concert
Sun 14 Jul Celine Byrne in Concert
Thu 17 & Fri 18 Oct Tom Crean - Antarctic Explorer
Wed 30 Oct Joseph O'Connor in conversation with Liz Nugent



For a full listing of events see www.paviliontheatre.ie

dIr Glashule Opera Presents



Pavilion Theatre Dún Laoghaire **Friday June 14th at 7.30pm**

An evening of favourite and famous arias and ensembles with dIr Glashule Opera, conducted by David Brophy featuring Ireland's next generation of opera singers.

Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society Talks

18th September "Old Manufacturing Firms of South Dublin". Speaker Frank Barry.

16th October The Oratory (formerly Dominican Convent). This hidden gem decorated in the Celtic Style by Sister Concepta Lynch. Speaker: Liz Pilkington.

Lectures on Wednesdays at 8pm in Royal Marine Hotel, adm €3. See www.dlbhs.com for more information.

Bloomsday in Sandycove and Glashule



Bob Waddell, Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD & James Holahan at Bloomsday 2018

Bloomsday, June 16th is on a Sunday this year. See traders' windows in Sandycove and Glashule for more details of events in the area.

There will be free events daily in the James Joyce Tower from **Tuesday 11th until 16th June**. See joycetower.ie.

St Paul's Summer Fair

A wide variety of stalls and entertainment at this annual fair in the St Paul's Parish Centre and church grounds.

25th May 10:30 - 14:00

SAGRA Surprise Celebration

Keep an eye out for special event near the end of September.

Surprise!



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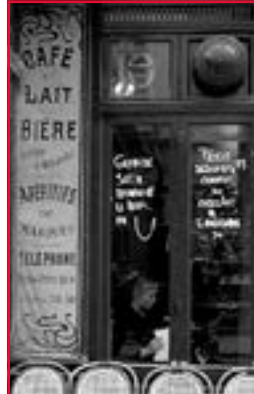
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