

# Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association Newsletter

May 2020



**Annual General Meeting  
Monday 30th November 8pm  
St Joseph's Pastoral Centre  
ALL WELCOME**

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Dear Resident

John Lennon said "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans". This seems particularly apt now.

This is my 20th newsletter as editor and the first digital only edition. We've given our distributors a break but hopefully we will be calling on them again for our November newsletter.

For this edition of the newsletter we offered our regular advertisers an advertisement for free. It's even more important than ever before to support local businesses. Those that are open are to be admired and hopefully those currently closed will be open again soon.

Despite the current situation there's a lot of good happening: people supporting each other - what a community is all about. There's a greater appreciation that no person is an island. To promote a sense of community we created a Facebook Group. We now have nearly 500 members. See page 12.

The Imogen Stuart Standing Stone project has made great progress. Hopefully we'll see the sculpture in Otranto Park in the not too distant future. See page 14 for more details.

We have cancelled our May meeting and at the moment the plan is to have our AGM in November. No one can predict what six months time will look like but I look forward to meeting you in person then.

Keep safe.

**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.

## AGM

We are planning to hold our AGM on **Monday November 30th at 8pm** in St Joseph's Pastoral Centre. This replaces our May meeting which has been cancelled.

This is subject to social distancing etc guidelines that might be in place.

## Subscriptions

At our AGM in May is when we usually look for membership subscriptions. We are looking at ways of accepting online subscriptions. In the meantime you can:

- a) set up a standing order (a standing order form is downloadable from our website) or
- b) directly transfer subscription (€15 for an individual or €22 for a household) to our bank account, making sure you include your name.

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- Local businesses create more jobs locally.
- Local businesses help create local culture and community.
- Local stores help to sustain a vibrant, compact, walkable village attracting visitors.

## Advertising

If you are interested in advertising in our November 2020 edition please email

**editor@sandycoveandglashule.ie** or phone Liam on **086 804 6938**.

This is a local magazine so we have a policy of only accepting advertising from those based locally.

## Contact Us

**Email: info@sandycoveandglashule.ie**

### SAGRA Committee

**Chairperson:** Liam Madden

**Secretary:** John Conroy

**Treasurer:** John Elliot

Other committee members (in alphabetical order):

Roger Courtney

Giles Kerr

Kay Gleeson

Trevor King

James Howley

Mary Roche

# Residents Meeting 25th November 2019

Liam Madden, Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked our elected representatives present (Richard Boyd Barrett TD, Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD, Cllr Mary Fayne, Cllr Lorraine Hall, Cllr Melisa Halpin, Justin Moylan representing Cllr Cormac Devlin, Cllr Ossian Smyth, Cllr Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill, Cllr Barry Ward) for taking the time to attend the meeting. He then introduced the Committee members.

Liam advised that this meeting is one of the association's two general meetings in the year (last Monday in May and November). This year the association also marked the 20th year of the newsletter with a celebratory party in the Royal Irish Yacht Club to thank the distributors (past and present) that deliver 2,500 newsletters to homes and businesses in the area.

He drew the members' attention to a number of developments happening in the area: (1) the work carried out in Otranto Park and the planned introduction of an Imogen Stuart sculpture; and (2) the Dún Laoghaire baths with a question regarding the need for an update on the plans for the inclusion of the salt water baths.

Liam mentioned local events in the area over the Christmas period: turning on of the Christmas lights, Santa's visit to the village, a customer evening and a carol service with 3 choirs in St. Joseph's.

He drew the meeting's attention to the SAGRA Facebook group which he advised was a great way to get involved and keep up to date with what is happening in the area.

The following issues were raised following the opening up of the meeting to the floor:

## Imogen Stuart Sculpture in Otranto Park

Imogen thanked SAGRA for its support and spoke briefly about the sculpture. In particular she thanked James Howley and Liam Madden who had supported and driven the project. James updated the room regarding developments and advised that fund raising activity had achieved half of the €50,000 goal thereby allowing the stone to be ordered.

## Castle Park School Development

Cllr Ossian Smyth advised that the developer had sought permission to increase the density from the Council's approved level of 50 to 100 units and that the planning process would be dealt with by An Bord Pleanála ("BP"). Richard Boyd Barrett TD said that the new Strategic Housing Development changes to the planning process allowed developers to bypass the normal planning process even in circumstances where the development in question is not designed to help solve the housing crisis. Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill said such applications to BP also go to the Council for comment and that residents can make observations even though BP is the final arbiter.

## Bulloch Harbour Development

In response to a member's query Cllr Melissa Halpin reported that the Bulloch Harbour Preservation Association are taking a judicial review of the revised permission granted to Bartra Property (Dublin) Ltd and were actively fundraising to help with the associated costs. Cllr Barry Ward stated that the High Court will determine whether the process undertaken by BP was correct or not.

## Draft Master Plan for Sandycove and Bulloch Harbours

It was noted that SAGRA's submission on the draft plan focused primarily on Sandycove Harbour.

## Parking

The issue of parking, particularly early morning parking near Sandycove Harbour, was raised by a member and Cllr Ossian Smyth invited residents to clarify their preferences as to how to resolve this matter, eg bollards, yellow lines, pay parking etc. A member also raised the issues of parking and speeding on Hudson Road. Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor and Cllr Melissa Halpin invited local residents to contact them about these and related issues.

Cllr Melissa Halpin reported that the Council's recently approved budget had assumed a rise in parking charges generally and she urged the meeting to respond to the consultation document due to be issued in New Year 2020 as she felt an increase in car parking charges would be a mistake.

## Glasthule Village

Cllr Lorraine Hall updated the meeting on her election commitment of ensuring that Glasthule gets a similar upgrade to that afforded to Monkstown recently. Meetings had been facilitated with the residents' association, local business owners and Council officials in this regard. She reported that she was preparing a document covering a range of issues such as street furniture, winter planting, bicycle parking, uniform signage and a branding project for the village and she invited submissions from residents.

## Dún Laoghaire Harbour

It was noted that ownership of the harbour had been transferred to the Council. The meeting was addressed by Liam Owens, Chairman of the new Dún Laoghaire Harbour Representative Group representing communities and users of the harbour. Richard Boyd Barrett TD reported that there would be a public consultation on the harbour early in 2020 and he hoped residents would make submissions and support the establishment of a municipal water sports centre and a Diaspora Museum. Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor informed the meeting that there were two separate consultancy tenders of €100,000 each regarding the harbour and the development of the town.

## Baths Project

In response to a question from the Chairperson, Richard Boyd Barrett TD said he was pressing for the sea water baths to be completed in the first phase of the development rather than the second phase as proposed by the Council. He urged people to sign a petition about the seawater baths on the Save Our Seafront website. He added that the plastic spillage incident had contributed to delays to the works.

## Sandycove to Sutton Cycleway

Cllr Barry Ward gave an update on the project and said that the delays were mainly due to planning restrictions because Dublin Bay is designated as a special conservation area.

In adjourning the meeting, Liam thanked the attendees, the Newsletter distributors and noted how lucky the Association was to have the use of the Pastoral Centre. He also asked members to support the local traders, particularly those who took out advertising space in the Newsletter.





## Prayer Outside St Joseph's



Hello Dear Jesus  
Glasthule, Sunday morning  
Church gate is locked, door is shut.  
You're in there  
Cocooning, coping with Covid  
I know you are; I can feel your presence  
I wish I could join you, talk with you, tell you of my fears  
I know you would listen, and understand.

I know you're out here too  
With us in our worried world  
But sometimes, you can be hard to find  
That's why I'm here this beautiful sun-blest morning  
Knowing you're missing me, as I am missing you.  
Hoping you're OK and not too lonely.

One Sunday soon  
St Joseph will open his doors again  
The sun will shine through the Rose Window  
The big bell will boom, the candles shimmer  
The Tree of Life will bloom again.

Father Denis, Father Brian and please God Father Billy  
Will welcome us home  
And we can all be together  
Again. And forever. Amen. Alleluia

**Breandán O' Broin      Aibréan 2020**

## Happy 90th Ursula



Congratulations to former SAGRA chairperson and contributor of "Ursula's Bits & Pieces" Ursula Maguire on her recent 90th birthday.

## It's a Boy



Congratulations to local ward Councillor Lorraine Hall on the birth of her son Conor Mac Coille on 28th April.

# County Development Plan 2022-2028 - SAGRA Submission

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is reviewing the current County Development Plan, 2016-2022, and preparing a new County Development Plan that will shape the future growth of the County for the period of 2022 – 2028. As part of the process, they called on local residents to make submissions by February 28th.

Our submission was made under four headings: 1) Glasthule Village, 2) Sandycove Architectural Conservation Area and 3) Coastal Defences and 4) Sandycove & Glasthule Miscellaneous.

These are reproduced on the following pages and where applicable the response from Council..

## 1. Glasthule Village

The village, which stretches from the Dart station to Fitzgeralds pub and Harolds School to Scotsmans Bay, has simultaneously a local, a citywide and an international character. Firstly it is the vibrant centre of its neighbourhood with excellent local shopping, social and service facilities clustered together. At the same time its combination of restaurants, pubs, shops and art gallery and proximity to the sea and Joyce's Tower combined with good transport accessibility and parking, make it attractive to visitors for socialising or seaside walks.

On the 16th of June each year, it becomes a destination for Joycean enthusiasts and the day long Bloomsday street party is one of the cultural highlights of the year. This makes it a prominent element of the Dublin tourism experience.

### Its Character

Architecturally the village is a charming hotch potch. Styles vary from the Victorian exuberance of 'The Eagle' public house to the distinctive early 20th c. brick gabling of the shops at the southern end. The delightful residential cul de sac 'The Glasthule Buildings' and the original shopfronts of 'Glennons' and 'Connollys' add variety also. There is one Protected Structure - the Victorian post box beside Mitchells. Though located on a busy crossroads, it is its vibrant and intimate scale which makes Glasthule one of the more attractive villages in the Dublin region.

Possibly the characteristic which contributes most to its popularity is its south facing pavement which allows the five very popular restaurant/winebars to provide much sought after outside tables.

However, the paving surface of this stretch of the street has gone through various stages of improvement, repair, digging up, replacement and other interventions over the years. It now consists of at least four differing paving materials and is cracked or uneven in parts.

Along this side, five trees of differing species have been planted while others have been removed. Planters and a seat have come and gone. Essential signage has increased. Solar bins have been provided. Signage on the businesses themselves has inevitably increased also and display stalls and advertising boards compete for attention and pavement space.

Most prominent however, is the cluster of electricity boxes, a refuse bin, signage, lighting and direction posts on the small area of footpath extension at the Link Road junction which present a very incoherent appearance.

### A New County Plan

These are all phenomena associated with the commercial success and attractiveness of the village, but over the years a sense of clutter and a neglect of the pavement surface has begun to appear and the review of the County Plan presents an opportunity to relook at the village and consider how its success and attractiveness can be preserved and enhanced.

There is increasing competition on the southern side between space for infrastructure, signage, lighting and planting. The challenge is how to free up and improve the pedestrian and sitting space while ensuring the provision of all ancillary and essential services.

The appropriate vehicle for resolving these conflicts is a comprehensive Public Realm Study within which the stretch of public pavement between Mitchells and the Link Road, which contains the principal location of restaurants/winebars, might be designated as an area for first stage improvements.

### The Public Realm

A Public Realm Strategy might consider the following initiatives:

- (a) Relaying the pavement from Mitchells to the Link Road with stone slabs to create a unified effect
- (b) Reviewing public signage with a view to simplification and/or the provision of new signage relating to the history and facilities of the village.
- (c) Examining infrastructure, in particular electricity boxes, with a view to their removal, relocation or visual improvement
- (d) Relocating public lighting onto building facades with the consent of the owners.
- (e) Reviewing the condition, location and appropriateness of the existing trees and considering the provision of additional appropriate planting.
- (f) Removing overhead wiring

To achieve these objectives therefore the Draft Plan should contain an objective stating that:

'The Council will carry out and implement on a phased basis, a Public Realm Strategy for the village of Glasthule'

There is currently no response from the council on this section of our submission.



# County Development Plan 2022-2028 Submission cont'd

## 2. Sandycove Architectural Conservation Area

Sandycove Harbour, the adjacent Forty Foot bathing area and The Joyce Tower are located in an Architectural Conservation Area with many historic and cultural associations. As such the area attracts tens of thousands of foreign visitors annually as well as thousands of Irish visitors. In addition to its architectural, cultural and historic associations, it is an intensely used recreational amenity area for swimming, diving, walking and canoing. It provides the setting for many annual events, for example the Iron Man, the annual Rowing Regatta, Bloomsday and many fund raising events.

The Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association was delighted when the Sandycove Architectural Conservation Area was adopted by the council and we acknowledge that some improvements have been made since then. Of these, the most significant have been the changing shelter at the harbour and the re-landscaping of Otranto Park. Despite reservations about the design of the park by some residents, most of the early detractors have come round as the planting has grown and the large hard surfaces have softened. We are excited that our fund-raising for the Imogen Stuart Standing Stone is nearing its target and the stone has been ordered, and that soon this park will have a new piece of sculpture by a locally based, but internationally regarded artist, who has lived in Sandycove for sixty years.

We have, however concerns about matters that compromise and threaten the historic character and natural beauty of this very special place. **Car parking** has always been a problem on sunny days, but more recently has become a year round problem, even in the early hours of the morning when it is

common to find the double yellow lines on the south side of Sandycove Avenue North completely filled by early morning swimmers. The visual impact of double parked cars, often taking up more than half of the pavement is not only an eyesore but a health and safety risk. We would urge the council to address this problem.

The unsightly visual clutter of the **overhead ESB and telecom wire** are a visual blight to the entire seafront stretching from the start of Otranto Place to the harbour. These detract from the beauty of the harbour, the park, the views of the historic houses, Geragh and the Martello tower and battery, and equally the sunset views across Scotsmans Bay. Otranto Place is a popular stopping off for tour buses summer and winter, from where, mostly foreign visitors alight briefly to walk down to the harbour, Forty Foot and Joyce Tower. It is shocking that they are looking at these views through a tangle of untidy overhead cabling and poor quality street lighting, all of which are captured in thousands of holiday photographs. If we really value the wonderful ACAs that we are fortunate to have in this county, we should look after them better and continue to try to improve them. We appreciate that implementing traffic management and parking initiatives take time, but would hope that the **upgrading of street lighting** for one of the most beautiful parts of the county should not present such a difficult challenge. The council has implemented many excellent new public lighting schemes in recent years and the SGRA would urge it to make the upgrading of lighting around the harbour and Otranto Park an absolute priority, together with the **under grounding of all overhead cables**.

### Council Response

Submission regarding car parking and road maintenance in the Sandycove/Glasthule Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) and urges DLR to address this problem.	The contents of this submission are noted. This is not a County Development Plan issue, rather it is an operational matter.
Submission request upgrading of lighting at Sandycove.	<p>This is not a County Development Plan issue. There is an ongoing upgrading programme with all street lights in DLR and all new lanterns are LED with full cut-off over 90 degrees. Obtrusive light is an ongoing concern of the Public Lighting Section and all lighting installations are designed to minimise obtrusive light while maximising the light reaching the footpaths and roads in the county. All lighting is designed to EN13201:2015.</p> <p>There is a general reduction of 50% (or more) in real lighting levels from the LED lanterns but as the light produced is a full spectrum light source it allows for 100% of our eye to utilise the light, thus appearing to be brighter even with a large decrease in light levels. The LED lanterns are also dimming between 12 midnight and 6am to further reduce light output in guidance and conformity to the lighting standards.</p>
Submission notes that Sandycove Harbour, the adjacent Forty Foot bathing area and The Joyce Tower are located in an ACA and that the area attracts tens of thousands of visitors annually.	The contents of this submission are noted. The Council recognises the value of Sandycove Harbour and ACA as a resource to the people of the area and of the County as a whole and remains committed to the ongoing protection of the character and special interest of the area.
Submission maintains that overhead electrical and telephone cables represents a visual blight to the entire seafront stretching from the start of Otranto Place to the harbour and calls for more to be done to improve the Sandycove ACA in this regard.	The contents of this submission are noted. The current Plan includes Policy AR15: 'Public Realm and Public Utility works within an ACA' which states amongst other things that it is Council policy to encourage the undergrounding of over-head services and the removal of redundant wiring/cables within an ACA. It is recommended that this policy is reviewed and updated as part of the drafting process for the Draft Plan.

# County Development Plan 2022-2028 Submission cont'd

## 3. Coastal defences against rising sea levels

1. The County Development Plan should include a high priority focus on the risk of flooding in low-lying coastal areas of the Irish Sea in and near Dublin Bay due to inevitably rising sea levels caused by climate change generally, including global warming. Over time the average sea level will rise to a material extent making this a distinctive issue over and above normal flood risks and the risk of underestimating the extent of the potential impact needs to be guarded against.
2. We believe the coastal defence situation is absolutely vital and will become even more so in the future. The Council should commit to having a separate ring-fenced fund for coastal protection and drainage upgrades to prevent sea surges causing flooding.
3. The Council should draw on all available expertise and assistance from the Office of Public Works in addressing issues arising from the risk of flooding in low-lying coastal areas in and near Dublin Bay due to rising sea levels.
4. The Council should, to the extent not yet fully done, identify locations or areas in and near Dublin Bay that are particularly under threat due to rising sea levels, based on detailed projections of climate change impacts, and issue an updated list of such locations or areas and updated and verified maps of projected future flood risks as part of a new Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, which should have a very major focus on the coastline, progressing significantly the existing Strategic Flood Risk Assessment which makes relatively slight reference to coastal issues. An assessment should be made about whether the existing planning for a sea level rise of between 0.5 and 1 metre is any longer sufficient. The Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association has a particular interest in the coastline from Dún Laoghaire Baths south to Bullock Harbour, some of which has recently experienced flooding. There is not just a question of control of new developments, an issue which the Council has acknowledged, but having regard to the existing significant residential and business infrastructure along the coast.
5. The Council should prepare and review and update stormwater management plans and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) policies in low-lying coastal areas in and near Dublin Bay, in the context of rising sea levels.
6. The Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association has a particular interest in the coastline from Dún Laoghaire Baths south to Bullock Harbour, some of which has recently experienced flooding. The closure/filling in of the 'natural flood run off' on Marine Parade, in front of the houses from Link Road to Seabank Court, created a flooding problem. Prior to the Council closing in the 'natural flood run off', none of the properties ever flooded. Uniquely, the 'natural flood run off' protected the houses from flood water coming from both directions – sea and drains. This solution, based on local knowledge, is particularly brought to the attention of the Council.
7. The Council should continue building coastal protection works and flood relief works already in progress or planned and prepare plans to build necessary additional coastal defences and implement other shoreline flood management measures, in low-lying coastal areas in and near Dublin Bay, against rising sea levels commensurate with the scale of the risk faced.
8. The Council should examine examples of coastal defences against rising sea levels in other countries and take account of what is learned from such examination.
9. The Council should seek expert specialist advice on the science of rising sea levels to become as well informed as possible about cost-efficient ways to protect low-lying coastal areas.
10. In conjunction with central government and neighbouring local authorities, investigations should be commenced into whether the building of a storm surge barrage in or near Dublin Bay, which can be closed during storms to prevent flooding, is a viable and beneficial option.

### Council Response

Submissions raise issues associated with rising sea levels including flooding and coastal erosion.	This will be considered as part of the review and updating of Appendix 13 (Strategic Flood risk Assessment) as part of preparation of the Draft Plan. The Council currently work proactively with the OPW on flood relief works and drawing down of funding for works and studies. Climate change and resultant rising sea levels will inform the SFRA.
Submission calls for an investigation, in conjunction with central government and neighbouring local authorities, into whether the building of a storm surge barrage in or near Dublin Bay, to be closed during storms to prevent flooding, would be a viable and beneficial option.	Any investigation of whether the building of storm surge barrage in or near Dublin Bay, to be closed during storms to prevent flooding, would be a National and Regional project and as such would be not something that a County Development Plan could instigate. This is not a County Development Plan issue.
Submissions raise localised flooding issues in Glasthule/Sandycove.	This will be considered as part of the review and updating of Appendix 13 (Strategic Flood risk Assessment) as part of preparation of the Draft Plan.



4. Sandycove and Glasthule Miscellaneous

- The roads are very much in disrepair, and the Council's pothole repairs aren't satisfactory. Before putting down new tarmac, the Council should plan what is running under the roads to make sure that they are not digging it up as soon as it goes down eg make sure broadband fibre is in place. A full plan for roads and pavements is needed. If they are doing both, maybe trunking ducts could be put under the pavements and not the roads. Future cables can then be run through the trunking duct, and they can stop digging up the roads. In the long run, they will save a great deal of money.
- The current solar bins are unhygienic and should be replaced by bins which can be opened by foot pressure.

Bins that have to be opened by hand are inherently unhygienic.

- During the balmy summer days Sandycove beach becomes very congested with resulting litter. The Council should install more bins (including some for recycling and food waste) and have extra collections during peak beach usage times.
- The new park on Hudson Road is a great additional amenity; it's usage could be substantially enhanced by the creation of an enclosed community garden in which local people could maybe rent a raised bed to grow some veg or flowers and to enjoy peace and tranquillity while others would simply come there to sit, chat and relax.

Council Response

For each of these points the response is: "The contents of the submission are noted. This is not a County Development Plan issue."

Additionally:  
"Currently, the majority of bins in the county are manually opened or hand operated however newer designs of bins now offer pedal actuated systems. Some of these new bins are already in service throughout the county. It is not the intention to replace or upgrade bins ahead of the 'end of life' and that units will only be replaced as and when the need arises.

Recycling bins are scheduled for installation at the main beaches during the summer months. These bins will facilitate the collection of only paper and plastics. All food waste will have to go into the normal street bin. Bin collections are conducted as and when required by the automatic telemetry systems contained within the smart bins. Additional collections are conducted at and during the high season of business and this will be maintained. The Council's Litter Wardens carry out daily patrols throughout the County."

Roger Casement Statue

A statue of Roger Casement will be unveiled later this year as part of the baths development in Sandycove. (It was due to happen in August but is now put back to December provisionally). The statue commissioned by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in 2018 from sculptor Mark Richards has cost €120,000. The unveiling will be run in conjunction with the delayed annual Roger Casement Summer School.

The sculpture will be a figurative representation of Roger Casement at the end of the planned jetty looking back towards the land and will measure 3m in height, just over 1.5 life size. The figure will be cast in bronze, which will mature and reflect the climatic conditions of the site as the years pass.



33 ~

BAKER STREET

~ 33

We have been lucky enough to be able to remain open during this awful time.

So why not pop into Baker Street for some of our delicious home baked breads and confectionery. A lot of our breads are VEGAN breads and shortly we will also have VEGAN cakes.

We would like to thank all of our customers for their support and patience while waiting in the queue outside during this past number of weeks.

**Opening Hours**  
Mon-Sat 8am - 6pm  
Sun and Bank Holidays 9am-4pm.

01-2802571, BakerStreetDublin@gmail.com. Facebook: BakerStreetBakery

# Sandycove and Glasthule March to May 2020

We asked local residents to submit photographs of the area in this time of COVID-19 restrictions. Thank you to all who sent in photos. Here's a selection of the submissions.



*Sandycove beach. Martina Kelly with Cooper, March 2020*



*Bulloch Harbour April 2020, Conrad Cullen*



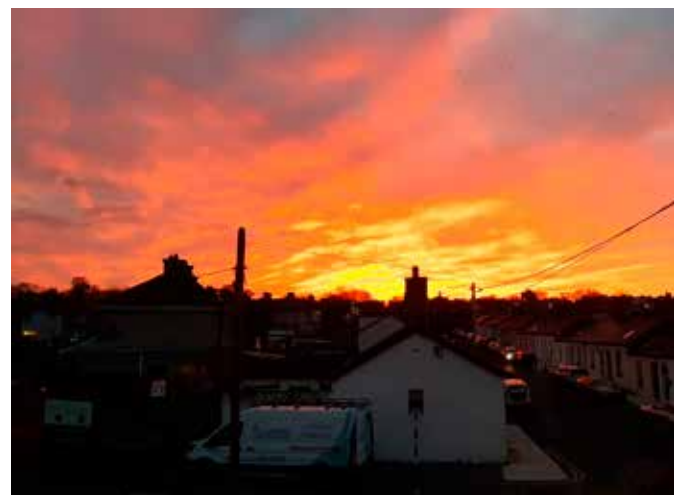
*Otranto Park, May 2020, John Elliot*



*Shine a light against covid, Sandycove Avenue*



*Newtownsmith May 2020, Damir Elliot,*



*Harold Crescent March 2020, Anne Mc Laughlin*





*Sandycove April 2020, Anne Mc Laughlin*



*e W, April 11 2020, Breandán O'Broin*



*The 40 foot, April 2020, Conrad Cullen*



*Sandycove March 2020, Anne Mc Laughlin*

# Introducing the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Representative Group

The objectives of the Group are to support the plans by Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for the conservation of the immensely important heritage of the harbour for future generations, to promote access for all and to assist in the development of a National Watersports Campus.

The recent transfer of the ownership and management of the harbour to the County Council presents a significant opportunity for harbour users and communities across the county to work in partnership with the Council to build the appropriate linkages to contribute to future dialogue on an agreed vision for its future.

A roll-call of organisations represented by the Group includes the Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association and organisations such as Dún Laoghaire Lions Club, Dún Laoghaire Central Residents Association, Coal Harbour Users' Group, Save Our Seafront, the yacht clubs represented by Dún Laoghaire Combined Clubs, Dublin Bay Sailing Club, Cruising Association of Ireland, DLR Chamber of Commerce, Maritime Institute of Ireland, St Michael's Rowing Club, RMS Leinster Memorial Committee and Bulloch Harbour Preservation Association.

The Group has committed to its constituent organisations to keep them up to date on developments relating to the harbour and share with them the outcomes of discussions that take place with the Council executive.

The Group is disappointed that the information currently forthcoming from the Council, much of it already known to the Group, is not particularly detailed. The Council has confirmed that it has engaged



Old Dún Laoghaire Car Ferry Approach (photo Ken Finlay)



consultants to build an economic plan for the harbour and the town to provide a strategy to inform the future development of both and that a key component of this plan is a public consultation process. The Council has paused this development because of pandemic measures and consequent inability to meaningfully engage in the public consultation process. A proposal to use the ferry terminal as an “innovation space” was appealed to An Bord Pleanála and the outcome is awaited. The Council received funding to progress the National Watersports Campus, to be located at the Carlisle Pier, up to design and planning.

The Group is in contact with our elected representatives to be kept informed by them on an ongoing basis on key harbour developments, specifically in relation to:

- The National Watersports Campus – objectives, any budgetary implications or changes from the funding commitment given by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and progress generally.
- The ferry terminal – short-term and long-term objectives, the outcome of An Bord Pleanála deliberations, any implications as to its possible use as an emergency location for testing during the pandemic.
- The economic plan for the harbour – and the promised involvement of the Group in the future consultative process.
- The protection of the unique harbour heritage; a key aim of the Group and the public.

As these developments evolve the Group would expect a much greater level of involvement and communication so that it can keep its commitment to keep its large membership adequately informed. For the general public such information will be highlighted in the Group's regular newsletters.

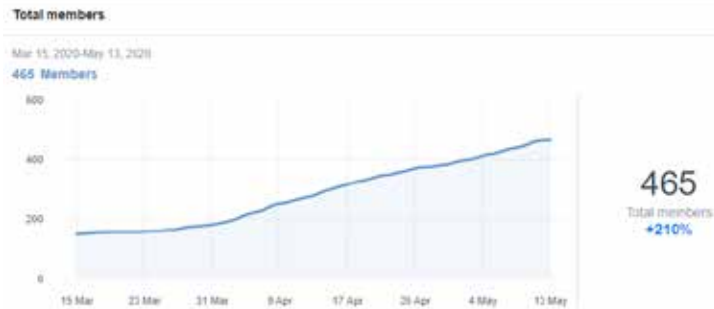


# SAGRA Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sagra.ie/>

We set up our Facebook group in September 2018. We saw it as a way of encouraging connectivity and community in the area.

There's been a big increase in membership of the group since the current crisis began and it's now approaching 500 members. (See graph below.) Thank you to all who have so far been contributing.



Since the COVID-19 crisis began we have been very active in sharing useful information and updates with relevance to residents of Sandycove and Glathule. You can see some of the screens on this page.

Some of the recent topics:

- COVID19 Resources
- Lost property
- Car Parking Spaces
- Flora and Fauna
- Staying Active
- Creative Projects
- Couch to 2K
- dlr Parks
- Photographs

We would encourage you to join the group and get involved.

The web address is above or you can find a link on our website.

**dlr COVID-19 Community Call teams are ready**

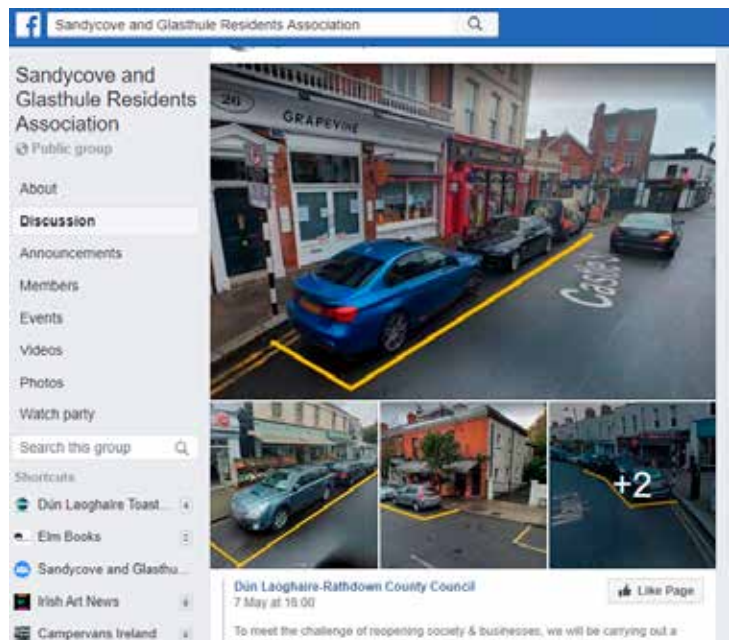
County Council, local GAA clubs & volunteers are helping elderly, cocooning and vulnerable citizens!

- Collection or delivery of food, essential items and medicines
- Social isolation – support & engagement
- dlr Libraries Book Drop service
- Dog Walking
- And more....

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**Email: [covidsupport@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:covidsupport@dlrcoco.ie)**

**7 days a week!**



**Rónán Murray - Organist**  
6 May at 15:19

Max Reger's exquisite Chorale Prelude "Jesus, meine Zuversicht" is from his Op. 135a and uses a 17th century hymn tune whose text explores death and eternity. Hopefully the coming weeks will see less death and the gradual easing of what seems like an eternity of restrictions. Recorded this afternoon in St. Joseph's Church, Glathule, Dublin on the 1896 Benson organ. <https://youtu.be/jlSESYt9OqI>



YOUTUBE.COM

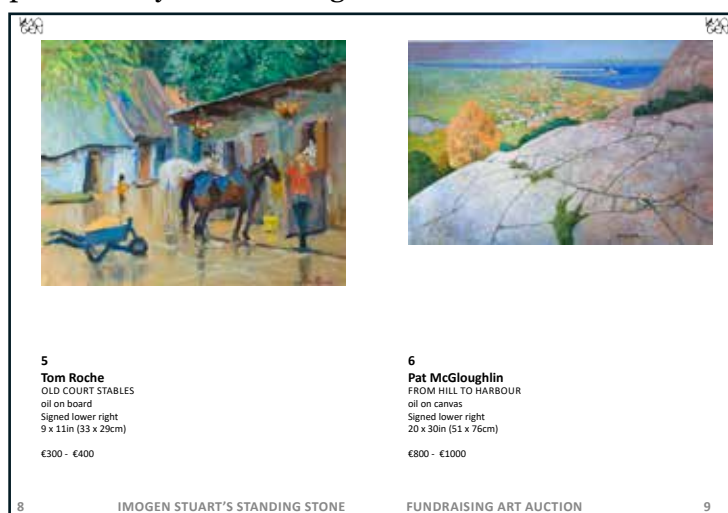
**Max Reger (1873-1916) - Jesus, meine Zuversicht, Op.135a; No. 13**

Photos from Maria Scully's post in Sandycove and Glathule Residents Association



# IMOGEN'S STANDING STONE - UPDATE

Like most public events and projects around the country, and indeed around the world, progress on Imogen's Standing Stone has unfortunately ground to a halt. A week before the fund-raising dinner the committee decided that it would be better to cancel the event, and our concerns were justified when the government restrictions were imposed a week later. Ticket sales had been impressive and many local businesses had contributed very generously in donating prizes for the raffle. All of these are in storage and will, we hope, be brought out again when we are able to reschedule the event safely. We also have a large and very impressive collection of donated artwork for the fine art auction that we also cancelled. Forty seven pieces, of which eleven are original drawings by Imogen herself, are included in the collection, and like the dinner, we are planning to reschedule the auction at some future time. A beautiful catalogue has been produced by Pat McGloughlin and Liam Madden that



includes details of the project, photographs of all of the works of art together with indicative guide prices. This interesting collection includes drawings, paintings and sculpture, produced by some of the country's finest artists, many of whom live locally, or have local connections.

Imogen and the committee are humbled by the generosity of all of the public, corporate and artist donors, which will lead to the creation of a unique piece of art on the Sandycove sea front, where Imogen has spent two-thirds of her long life. Like all of Imogen's art, it is a piece that will resonate deep meaning and a strong sense of place, combining ancient history with the world today. The level of interest from local Sandycove and Glashule residents, and from much further afield is a testament to the respect Imogen commands as an artist and the deep affection she enjoys from so many of us as our neighbour and friend.

Although the fund-raising campaign is not yet complete, we have all of the hard work done and with the funds already in hand and all the art works, still to be auctioned, the process of producing the sculpture has already started and we are confident that we will

reach our target. Imogen is currently transferring her design drawings for the standing stone onto a full scale plywood model of the sculpture that will be placed in the park temporarily to help determine the final location on its grassy knoll overlooking Scotsman's Bay. As you will see from the picture below, the stone has been extracted and has since been moved to the workshop to be cut into the final rough shape. This work, on shaping the stone, had started just before the



shut down and we are hoping that it will continue as soon as the government restrictions allow. Once the final complex and very elegant form has been cut and textured, it will be moved to the carver's studio where the two figures and the lettering will be carved from the full size drawings under Imogen's watchful eye.

Until we understand just how and when we are all going to phase ourselves back into the "new normal" we cannot guess how long it will take for the carving to be completed, but all is in place and ready to progress just as soon as it is safe to do so. It is nice that during these difficult times we can all have something new, exciting and hopeful to look forward to and the day this large piece of stone is lifted into place by a crane, will be a very special day for all who have contributed so generously. Imogen has used poetry to inspire many of her most important works and the verse she has chosen for her standing stone is rather poignant for the times that are in it. As chance would have it, Ciaran Byrne carved four very fitting words from this verse into a large granite pebble that he found on Killiney Beach. It is lot number 23 in the auction and I suspect it will attract many bidders.

**JH**





# Our Elected Representatives

Since the general election there have been a few changes to our TDs and councillors. Here is the up to date list with contact details.

## Councillors

### Cllr Mary Fayne (Fine Gael)



086-4611626  
mfayne@cllr.dlrcoco.ie

### Cllr Tom Kivlehan (Green Party)



087-3732518  
tkivlehan@cllr.dlrcoco.ie

### Cllr Justin Moylan (Fianna Fáil)



087-3138815  
jmoylan@cllr.dlrcoco.ie

### Cllr Lorraine Hall (Fine Gael)



087-7905555  
lhall@cllr.dlrcoco.ie  
www.lorrainehall.ie

### Cllr Juliet O'Connell (Labour Party)



087-2707745  
joconnell@cllr.dlrcoco.ie  
www.julietoconnell.ie

### Cllr Melisa Halpin (People Before Profit)



086-3805793  
mhalpin@cllr.dlrcoco.ie  
www.melisahalpin.ie

### Cllr Dave Quinn (Social Democrats)



087-2473448  
dquinn@cllr.dlrcoco.ie

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## TDs

### Richard Boyd Barrett TD (People Before Profit)



01-6183449  
richard.boydbarrett@oireachtas.ie  
www.richardboydbarrett.ie

### Cormac Devlin TD (Fianna Fáil)



01-2750786  
cdevlin@cllr.dlrcoco.ie  
www.cormacdevlin.ie

### Jennifer Carroll-MacNeill TD (Fine Gael)



087 925 7559  
jennifer.carrollmacneill@oireachtas.ie  
www.jennifercarrollmacneill.ie

### Ossian Smyth TD (Green Party)



01-6183362  
ossian.smyth@oireachtas.ie  
www.ossiansmyth.ie

# Messages from our Elected Representatives

We emailed each of our TDs and Dún Laoghaire ward councillors and asked them to provide a message to the residents of Sandycove and Glasthule. Here is what those that replied said.

## **Cllr Lorraine Hall (FG)**

I hope you and your family are keeping safe & healthy during this time. Despite the chaos caused by Covid-19, it has been great to see our community rally to protect our elderly and vulnerable neighbours, ensuring they have groceries and other supports.



It has also been brilliant to see local shop owners innovate and transform their businesses, so that they can continue to meet our needs and safely serve their customers. It's vital that we continue to support our local businesses – and take particular care to check-in on those living alone. I'm excited to give birth to my first child in late April. Although this will be a busy time for me, please do continue to email your queries to me at [cllr.dlrcoco.ie](mailto:cllr.dlrcoco.ie) because it's very important I stay on top of issues facing the local community.

Stay safe.

## **Jennifer Carroll MacNeill TD (FG)**

Thank you to everyone in Sandycove and Glasthule for playing your part in helping us suppress Covid-19. I know how difficult it has been and continues to be. Without the efforts of this community, many more of us would be suffering from the impact of the virus.



In particular I would like to thank the local traders. Their phenomenal work and commitment to the community has been outstanding. Everyone has been able to stay home a little bit longer, with a bit more comfort, thanks to their effort. I know the changes that were implemented, as well as the daily risks, are not easy. They have also gone above and beyond with innovative ideas to lift community spirit.

I also want to thank those who have taken part in the Community Call. Lets continue to do our part, by supporting our community, and our local businesses.

## **Cllr Melisa Halpin (BBP)**

A big hello to the residents of Sandycove and Glasthule in these difficult times. I don't think any of us could have imagined we would ever find ourselves in this situation and it is a real testament to the strength and determination of all the people of our island that we have so willingly and resolutely adapted ourselves to the "new normal".



It has been particularly hard for older and vulnerable people who have had to confine themselves so drastically.

One of the most important things I have learned from the Covid19 crisis is the vital role of so many workers in our society and I would like to salute all of those in the health service, retail sector and other essential work who are the heroes of this health emergency.

At times like this, I am also extremely grateful to live where there is so much natural beauty within 2km to be able to enjoy!

Looking forward to seeing you all again at a point when it is, once again, safe to gather in groups.

## **Cllr Justin Moylan (FF)**

Thanks to Liam and the SAGRA team for the opportunity to post a message in the May newsletter. It's hard to believe that this time last year we were canvassing for Local Elections, what a difference a year makes!

We know Sandycove and Glasthule are amongst the best places to live in the country and despite the difficulties that Covid has brought we should be proud of our efforts to suppress this virus. It is a demonstration of our community spirit and solidarity.

With that in mind I am honoured to have recently joined DLR council following the election of my friend and colleague Cormac Devlin TD to the Dáil. I look forward to representing you at a local level and meeting you at the SAGRA AGM in November. In the meantime if you require any assistance please feel free to contact me.

[jmoylan@cllr.dlrcoco.ie](mailto:jmoylan@cllr.dlrcoco.ie)





### **Cormac Devlin TD (FF)**

Thank you to the residents of the area for their continued support and for electing me to Dáil Éireann. I am extremely grateful for all of your support since 2004. Congratulations to my colleague, Justin Moylan who has been co-opted as your new councillor.



The public have made great sacrifices over the past few weeks. It has been an exceptionally difficult time for our frontline workers, students (and their families) preparing for exams and people cocooning.

The Dáil continues to meet in a reduced capacity, I am hopeful that a government can be formed. There's a long road ahead as we begin to ease certain restrictions and reignite our economy. Any government must prioritise a sustainable recovery, the provision of services, the delivery of housing while making progress on climate change.

As always, I remain available to residents, my office is open and I can be contacted at 01 275 0786, email [cormacdevlin.ie](mailto:cormacdevlin.ie) or online via Zoom/WebEx.

### **Richard Boyd Barrett TD (PBP)**

The Covid19 pandemic is a strange time for us all. I hope you are keeping well out there and not suffering too much from the isolation. My deepest condolences to anyone who has lost a loved one.



However, maybe there are some positive lessons we can take from this experience to make a better future. None more important than how essential our health services and wonderful health care workers are to protect and care for us all.

Before the pandemic there were some worrying signs of a possible downgrading of St Michael's Hospital. Surely if we are to learn anything from this experience it must be that we campaign to retain, resource and upgrade our health services in general and St Michael's in particular.

A big thanks to all our frontline and essential workers and let's make it a priority to support those workers and services when we finally emerge from this crisis.

Solidarity from a socialist distance.

Richard

### **Cllr Mary Fayne (FG)**

In this strange time that we're all living through at the moment, I'd like to take a little time to thank everyone in our village for adhering to the guidelines dictated by Covid 19. I'm pleased to see some restrictions have been lifted, in particular those giving more freedom of movement to the older members of our Community.



Thank you to the shops and businesses in Glasthule for keeping us supplied with necessities. To all the volunteers for the giving of their time to help out.

To all the HSE staff, in particular frontline workers, a heartfelt thank you, for putting yourselves at risk on our behalf.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance in any way  
[mfayne@cllr.dlrco.co.ie](mailto:mfayne@cllr.dlrco.co.ie).

### **Cllr Juliet O'Connell (LAB)**

During this difficult time for everyone I want to take a moment to tell you how proud I am to be a representative for this area. The local community has displayed huge passion and compassion which is heartwarming.



The kind eyes and gentle warm smiles from across 2 meters on walks when the sea has been still and silent will stay in memory for a long time.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, for helping me to do my job every day as your councillor. I would also like to ask you to please continue to support local business and to commit to prioritise to spend your money in our local economy to support the community that supported us in these difficult times. To all residents who are frontline workers and to everyone who changed their lives to make our society safer. Thank you and please contact me directly if you need any help or assistance [joconnell@cllr.dlrco.co.ie](mailto:joconnell@cllr.dlrco.co.ie)

### **Ossian Smyth TD (GP)**

Thank you to everyone who supported and voted for me in February's general election. I am delighted and honoured to represent you in Dáil Éireann. After six years of working as your local councillor, I look forward to working with you in this new role.



Covid-19 presents many challenges for our community. Some local businesses are still open and are offering a limited service, some with delivery and no contact collection. I have compiled a list of these businesses: [www.ossiansmyth.ie/local-business-directory/](http://www.ossiansmyth.ie/local-business-directory/) If you know of one that should be added to the directory, please contact me: [ossian.smyth@oireachtas.ie](mailto:ossian.smyth@oireachtas.ie)

I hold virtual constituency clinics every week by phone and Zoom. Please get in touch if you would like to raise an issue with me. To organise an appointment, email me at: [ossian.smyth@oireachtas.ie](mailto:ossian.smyth@oireachtas.ie) or phone: 01-6183362.

Keep up to date with the work I'm doing by following me on Twitter: @smytho, Facebook: smythossian, and Instagram: smythossian.



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