

## **DEPUTATION MEETING MINUTES**

**Date & Time**                                **24<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 @ 2pm**

**Deputation Group:**                        **Orwell Park Residents Association**

Councillors Present	Cllr. Conor McMahon, Cllr. Paul Foley, Cllr. Charlie O'Connor, Cllr. Pamela Kearns & Cllr. Rob Russell.
Apologises	Cllr. Emma Murphy & Cllr. Dermot Looney.
Deputation	Stephen Willoughby, Donnachadh Lehane, Ciaran Boylan and Joseph Kiernan
Council Official Present	
Vincent Heywood	Land Use Planning & Transportation
Máire Ní Dhomhnaill	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Eamon Harnett	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Oliver Hoey	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Brian Carroll	Housing Social & Community Development
Carol McDonnell	Housing Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Paul Foley.

### **Items discussed:**

- 1) Roundabout – Orwell.
- 2) Road Signage – Orwell.
- 3) Development Plan – Orwell Park Green.
- 4) Commitments given at Deputation meeting.

### **Item 1 Roundabout – Orwell.**

The group give a brief history of the works that had been carried out on the roundabout. The group state that one of the reasons given by South Dublin County Council (SDCC) for the works being carried out was the lower costs to be associated with the roundabout, as it would now be maintenance free. The group state that it appears that the roundabout is currently far from maintenance free. The group would like to hear from SDCC, the justification for the works, what the plans are now and how SDCC will insure that this will not happen again.

Ms. Máire Ní Dhomhnaill of the Environment, Water & Climate Change department explains to the group that there was a demand for the revamping of the roundabout. A number of designs were put in place and discussion took place with residents prior to implementation of the design. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains some of the previous issues. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill also explains that with planting there needs a period of time for the plants to develop and it may take a year or two for the impact to be seen. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill states that there will now be regular maintenance on the roundabout. This maintenance will need to take place before the roundabout can become "Maintenance Free" and that various methods will be looked at to insure the roundabout become weed free and this would include the safe use of pesticides.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill commits to the regular maintenance of the roundabout on a regular basis to insure the plants grow and the design develops.

The Group ask where the demand for the works on the roundabout came from and query the consultation process that took place.

Cllr. Pamela Kearns puts forward an alternative suggestion for the roundabout.

Cllr. Paul Foley explains that the issue has been raised at the recent Area Committee Meeting regarding the ongoing maintenance.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill confirms that there is no mesh under the pebbles. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains that while she want not involved in the design of the roundabout, it is her understanding that a meeting took place with local residents at a coffee shop by the church. In response to Cllr. Kearns suggestion, Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains that if the ivy is given the chance to grow then it will require less maintenance than if grass was there but the suggestion is something that could be considered.

The Group ask are they the only ones bringing these issues to the Council.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains that the issues have been raised at the Area Committee Meetings and also from the Groups Residents Association. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill is not aware of other groups making observations but says that there may be individual customer care queries.

## **Item 2 - Road Signage – Orwell.**

The Group outline its frustration of raising this issue again at a Deputation meeting. In January 2017 the Group compiled a 30 page report that contained 40 photographs. The Group sent this into the SDCC Traffic Section. The Group have attended a subsequent Deputation meeting and the issue has still not been resolved. The report was again both emailed and a hard copy sent to SDCC and this was acknowledged. The Group give various example of how the signage in the estate is wrong.

Mr. Heywood of the Land Use Planning & Transportation department confirms that he has had sight of the report and acknowledges that there has been a lot of “going back and forth between sections”. Mr. Heywood asks for contact details for a member of the Group so that he can arrange a site meeting in order to walk to area.

Cllr. McMahon suggests that if the issue is costs that the works could be carried out on a phased basis.

Cllr. Kearns asks that a review be carried out in three months.

Mr. Heywood agrees to a three month review of the situation.

The Group agree to meet for a site meeting.

### **Item 3 - Development Plan – Orwell Park Green.**

The group state that they had met on site with Council Officials and had reviewed and altered the pre-existing plan. The Group made five points in order of priority.

- 1) The tree line continues along the perimeter of the park to the east and south of the park.
- 2) The trial of a small amount of bulb planting. Particularly opposite the shopping centre.
- 3) Tree planting along the road side at the shopping centre.
- 4) A new footpath along the southern side of the park. This allows for the extension of the existing footpath.
- 5) A review of the existing footpaths.

The Group ask for feedback on the progress that has been made.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill replies to the Group to confirm that she had received the proposal from her colleague and that her department were now preparing their works programme for 2019. Some, if not all the actions will be in the 2019 program.

#### **Commitments given:**

- 1) Ongoing maintenance of the roundabout – Máire Ní Dhomhnaill.
- 2) Site meeting to walk the area with Residents and discuss signage – Vincent Heywood.
- 3) Three month review to be carried out on signage – Vincent Heywood.
- 4) Works program for Orwell Park Green to include some, if not all, proposals from the Residents Association. List provided. - Máire Ní Dhomhnaill.