

DEPUTATION MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time: 28th March 2018 @ 3pm

Deputation Group: Saggart Village Residents Association

Councillors Present:	Cllr. Martina Genockey Cllr. Brian Leech Cllr. Emma Hendrick Apologies: Cllr. Francis Noel Duffy
Deputation:	Amanda Crone, Tracey Malcom, Lynn Tierney & Kieran Crone.
Council Officials Present:	
Leo Magee	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Laurence Colleran	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Máire Ní Dhomhnaill	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Eamon Harnett	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Brian Carroll	Housing, Social & Community Development
Carol McDonnell	Housing, Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Martina Genockey.

Agenda:

Items discussed:

- 1) Saggart Village Maintenance.
- 2) Pruning schedule for Garter Lane & location of football pitches.
- 3) Commitments given at Deputation meeting.

1. Saggart Village Maintenance

The group begin their presentation by bringing up the ongoing issue of litter in Saggart Village. The group have identified this as a major issue, particularly at the weekend. The group acknowledge the use of Street Sweepers in the area but query what is the cleaning schedule for the Street Sweepers and ask can the frequency of these clean ups be increased. The group would also like to know what the current system is for cleaning the footpaths.

The group say that issues with bins is part of the reason for excessive litter in the area. The bins placed at the core of village are often overflowing. The group ask if the number of bins in the area can be increased and can the collection schedule be more frequent. The group states that there are a number of businesses in the area that would be happy, if they were key holders, to empty bins outside their locations. The group state that there are no public bins in Slade Castle Retail Complex. The group ask if it is possible to get bins allocated to that particular area and if not, the group ask how South Dublin County Council will insure that the businesses in this area maintain it to a satisfactory level.

Leo Magee of the Environment, Water & Climate Change department replied to say that clean ups are carried out once a month in the Saggart area. On some occasions clean ups will take place as the need arises. Mr. Magee states that he will look at returning to a weekend schedule and will come back to the group. Mr. Magee explains that SDCC have a contract in place with Oxegen who carry out road sweeping, some of their staff would litter pick in conjunction with that service. Mr. Magee states that there is an onus on businesses to deal with the litter emanating from their premises and he will get the Litter Wardens to look at the lack of bins outside these shops. Mr. Magee says that his department will look at the number of litter bins SDCC currently has in Saggart Village, their locations and the servicing frequency to see if there is anything that needs to be done to improve the situation.

2. Pruning schedule for Garter Lane & location of football pitches.

Pruning schedule -

The group explain that the area coming off the N7 into Saggart up to the Citywest Hotel was previously maintained by Citywest Hotel but this has not been happening for a number of years and during the summer months this is a problem for people using footpaths. Visibility is also affected by the trees obstructing street lighting columns. The group want to know is there any obligation for SDCC to rectify this. The group also describe a location opposite Fortunestown Lane where the Luas stop is, there is fencing around planting at the apartments, and the overgrowth is covering the pedestrian side. The group ask if an area does not fall under the charge of SDCC, how the group will get it pruned.

Máire Ní Dhomhnaill of the Environment, Water & Climate Change department replied to say that a number of areas in Saggart where SDCC will need to establish if it is responsible for its maintenance. Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains that SDCC has a three year tree maintenance programme that has been published. Saggart Village was not included in this but some trees have already been surveyed on Garter Lane. Tree maintenance and removal in some cases is planned. Other areas within the village will be included for surveying to establish what works are required. With regard to planting in the village, work has been ongoing and trees have been surveyed in the square, recommendations have been made.

Mr. Magee explains that outgrowing hedgerows coming off the N7 towards Saggart Village is an issue for SDCC's Roads department. Mr. Magee states that he will contact them to bring the issue to their attention. Mr. Magee explains that when a hedgerow along private land is obstructing a footpath or a road, the roads section can serve notice against the landowner, obliging the landowner to take action.

The group ask will Saggart be included in the three year tree maintenance program going forward.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill confirms that SDCC will include Saggart Village on the three year tree maintenance program going forward.

Cllr. Brian Leech asks why the trees mentioned will be removed.

Ms. Ní Dhomhnaill explains that the trees have been surveyed and the Inspector advised removal.

Cllr. Brian Leech asks if Citywest are responsible for the hedgerows on the hotel side of the road.

Mr. Magee confirms that they are.

The group ask if they can contact Citywest regarding the encroachment onto footpath.

Mr. Magee states that he does not see any reason the group cannot contact Citywest Hotel and that his department would also be writing to them.

Pitches –

The group explain that the Saggart area has a growing population and the previous two censuses have shown that Saggart is the fastest growing village in the country. The group explain that there are a number of sports teams in the area, the main one for juveniles being the GAA club. The three pitches that the GAA use in Rathcoole Park are being closed due to the installation of a water pipe line by Irish Water. The group would like to know the details of where the club will be accommodated after the loss of these pitches. The group also enquire about the longer term plan and the development plans which appear to show industrial and residential development but not much green areas. The group ask what the long term plan for the area is.

Laurence Colleran of the Environment, Water & Climate Change department replied to say that SDCC have been in extensive negotiations with the local GAA club. Alternative accommodation has been found for the duration of the works, this includes playing pitches and training areas for juveniles. A start date has not been provided by Irish Water but works will last at least one year on site, the pitch will then be reinstated and then time will be given for the pitch to grow back and get to a decent condition. The whole process will take about three years. In relation to the future population growths, Mr. Colleran explains that areas to the west of the park

are zoned to provide open space and amenities. The land is not owned by SDCC but any development will need to provide for playing pitches. SDCC have started work on a Parks & Open Space strategy, which will look at the services provided for future populations. SDCC have also started a consultation process for facilities for teenagers. There have been over 400 responses to this. The study is well under way and a report will issue to the local area committee when completed.

The group ask if there will be no green space in Saggart available for the next three years.

Mr. Colleran replies to say that only the pitches will not be in use. A 20 meter wide strip will be fenced off across the centre of the park. 80/90% of the park will still be usable as green space but those pitches won't be operational.

The group ask will there be any provision in future planning for All Weather Pitches.

Cllr. Genockey asks where the alternative pitches will be located.

Mr. Colleran replies to say that there is a pitch in Kilnamanagh and training facilities in Corkage Park. Mr. Colleran states that he will come back to the group with the exact details. The GAA club have already been made aware of the alternative arrangements.

Regarding All Weather Pitches, Mr. Colleran replies to say that the Parks & Open Space strategy will also look at intensification in use of facilities. Therefore, more All Weather facilities will be required and as these have been an outcome in other Local Authorities, Mr. Colleran said that might be the case here as well.

Commitments given:

- 1) Will look at returning to a weekend cleaning schedule of the village and come back to the group. Will possibly be on a Sunday morning – Leo Magee.
- 2) Will look at numbers and placement of bins in the village – Leo Magee.
- 3) Get Litter Warden to look at what bins are at the Slade Castle shopping area – Leo Magee.
- 4) Establish what works on trees the Council is responsible for & will include other areas for surveying to see what needs to be done – Máire Ní Dhomhnaill.
- 5) Will contact the Roads department to see what needs to be done regarding out growing hedgerows on road coming off the N7 in the direction of Saggart – Leo Magee.
- 6) Will include Saggart in the next 3 year tree maintenance programme – Máire Ní Dhomhnaill.
- 7) Will let the group know details of the alternative pitches – Laurence Colleran.