

DEPUTATION MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time: 25th January 2017 @ 2pm

Deputation Group: St. Kevin's Family Resource Centre

Councillors Present:	Cllr. Cora McCann Cllr. Charlie O'Connor Apologies: Cllr. Mick Duff
Deputation:	Grainne Begley Pearl Maher Yvonne O'Malley
Council Officials Present:	
Laurence Colleran	Environment, Water & Climate Change
Brian Carroll	Housing, Social & Community Development
Carol McDonnell	Housing, Social & Community Development

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Cora McCann.

Item 1 – Reconstruction of Playground in Tymon Park

Mr. Laurence Colleran of the Environment, Water & Climate Change Department gave a detailed presentation outlining the 5 year Playground Construction Programme (2014-2018) plus Region Playground Upgrade and development works highlighting the following:

- Encouraging Imaginative Play
- Stimulate imaginations
- Encourage Active play

Advising that when devising the new playground for Tymon Park, the following was taking into consideration:

- Provide for the local play needs of the community.
- Encourage active play and adventure.
- Reflect the heritage of the area in a way that can capture children's imagination.

The presentation included photographs of the site at Tymon, which will be a woodland setting incorporating a Naturalistic Play Space - Hill of Cooley, the idea is to use the hill across the river to create a fort area. This fort is to hide the Tain Bó Cualigne -The Brown Bull of Cooley. The fort will be built in the trees. It can be approached from across the river on rustic bridges and those inside can enjoy look outs slides and a climbing fort. It would include sand and water play and a large bull. This area would be ideal for imaginative play. It is anticipated that the playground will be completed the 1st week in March, when grass will be planted, needing approximately three weeks for grass to be established.

Ms. Grainne Begley from the group thanked Mr. Colleran for detailed presentation, highlighting the loss felt of the old playground in 2010 in which a huge amount of local children played and the frustrations of a 7 year wait for this new playground but stating that St. Kevin's Family Resource Centre (SKFRC) are delighted with the approach of this Council with other play spaces in the Kilnarnagh and Kingswood areas, and it is great to see the current stage of this new playground.

Ms. Yvonne O'Malley concurred & asked about the following:

- Possibility of naming the playground or part of named in commemoration of the late Kasey Kelly. Mr. Colleran replied that he will endeavour to find out if this is possible and revert back to Ms. Begley
- Are there plans for a big red slide which was in original playground, Mr. Colleran replied that there are 3 or 4 slides in the new playground but they not very big.
- Wheelchair accessibility: Mr. Colleran replied that playground is wheelchair accessible but not at every point.

Item 2 – Plan for site of old playground.

Ms. Begley enquired regarding the plans for the old playground site highlighting that at present there is a remote control car club using this area. Ms O'Malley concurred stating that it is an unsafe hazardous wild area with remote car racing at present. Mr. Colleran replied highlighting that "wild areas" are not necessarily unsafe and hazardous, this is a good site for children to play using their imaginations with hills and gravel (pea gravel).

Mr. Colleran agreed that there is an unofficial remote car racing club in park at present, which appears to use the park on Sundays from 11am until 1pm.

Ms. Begley advised that (SKFRC) are going to do a door to door survey to ascertain what kind of space would be required by residents in this on this old playground space, enquiring if this would be useful. Mr. Colleran stated that South Dublin County Council carry out their own community consultations when required but would be open to receiving any feedback from Residents Groups.

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor thanked Mr. Colleran for very good presentation, noting that Cllr. Mick Duff has also been in constant touch with this Council regarding this new playground. Cllr. O'Connor highlighted his strong support regarding the naming of this playground, advising the importance of people attending both the park and playground in large numbers, other issues in relation to the Park can be made on another day.

Cllr. Cora McCann also gave thanks for an excellent informative presentation and welcoming the new playground, but highlighting the usage of the old playground which is an eyesore and needs to be addressed in the near future.

Ms. O'Malley requested confirmation that Mr. Colleran will contact (SKFRC) in relating to the naming of Park.

Mr. Colleran confirmed that he will contact Ms. Begley once he has feedback on same and if this can be done he will endeavour to get it done at the opening ceremony of the playground.

Commitments

- Playground to be completed the 1st week in March - L. Colleran.
- Naming of Playground – L. Colleran to contact G. Begley in relation to same.