

Belgrave Residents Association

***Annual General Meeting
in
Beechwood Community Centre,
on
October 23rd 2015***

Minutes of Meeting

**Chair: Shelagh Jennings
Hon Treasurer: Catherine Griffith CPA
Planning Officer: Cliona Buckley
Secretary: Nicholas Simms**

Apologies: Valerie Coghlan, Eamonn Walsh

Welcome from the Chair

Shelagh Jennings opened the meeting and welcomed those present. She expressed her thanks to Catherine Griffith, who was retiring as treasurer, and Clare Dillon who had retired as a road representative, for their past contribution to the work of the Association. She invited members to volunteer to act as road representatives on the committee and indeed as a new treasurer.

Presentation to Special Olympics medal winner Timothy Morahan

On behalf of Belgrave Residents Association, Shelagh Jennings presented an inscribed tankard to Timothy Morahan of Belgrave Terrace, in recognition of his achievement in winning 3 medals at the Special Olympic Games in Los Angeles, July/August 2015.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 17th October 2014, were read. They were approved on the proposal of Emmy Morahan, seconded by Catherine Griffith.

Matters arising from the Minutes

Traffic and Parking

John and Mary Boyle raised the question of parking spaces on Oakley Road. 4 parking spaces had been removed in recent times, mainly to facilitate those wishing to exit from entrances on the opposite side. They had made representations to DCC to reinstate some parking spaces. Nicholas Simms said the Association had also written to DCC to this effect. On the suggestion of the chair, John Boyle agreed to draft a letter with a diagram indicating where extra space might be inserted. A comment was also made that both the roadway and the pavements were in poor repair on Oakley Road.

Fair in the Square

Catherine Griffith reported that Ronan O'Donnell (Senior Community Officer, DCC South East Area Office) had said that they would not be funding another Fair in the Square this year, though there might be financial support for a smaller event. She said that perhaps there should be something aimed at a different age bracket, such as Opera in the Park. She also noted that Frank Browne, the parish organiser who had been a driving force behind the Fair in the Square, had been transferred to Clondalkin. Mary Crosbie suggested that it might be possible to have an event every two years. She stressed the amount of work involved for the volunteers and the committee, the contribution of local businesses and the 9-month lead-time

Treasurer's report

The Hon. Treasurer, Catherine Griffith, took the meeting through the association's annual accounts (attached). She noted that the subscriptions had increased by €200 to a total of €2,590. Expenditure was down, giving a surplus of €987 for the year. The main items of expenditure were planning fees and the newsletter. Less had been spent on planning fees, as there had been less planning activity. The cost of the newsletter had been reduced to €231 because of the smaller format.

On the proposal of John Boyle, seconded by Kathleen Horgan, the accounts for the year ending 30th Sept 2015 were adopted by the meeting.

Planning Report

The Planning Officer, Cliona Buckley, said that there had been a substantial amount of refurbishments and extension during the year.

She referred to a recent case where the Association had made observations in support of neighbouring residents:

Rear of 38 Belgrave Road

New three-bedroom, two-storey mews. Refused on appeal to An Bord Pleanála on the grounds of excessive visual overbearing and overshadowing, as well as loss of daylight to Killeen Road.

She also mentioned:

Development on Dagg's site (Church Avenue/ Church Gardens)

An application for 16 housing units compared with previous 12, rising to 14. The Association lodged an objection on 12th January on the grounds of over-development. Additional information sought, decision due on 4th November

Palmerston Park

The pond had been restored and the waterfall was flowing.

Ranelagh Gardens

Planning permission had been given on 15th May 2015 for improvements including construction of a new playground as well as upgrading the Ranelagh Road entrance area, signage and seating upgrading, surface and entrance upgrading, regrading and railings installation to the pond edge, as well as installation of an outdoor gym area and bird garden.

Belgrave Residents Association

2

23rd October 2015

Annual General Meeting

Greening of Ranelagh

Good work had been done under the leadership of Grace Maguire in locating flower boxes around Ranelagh and having a clean-up every Thursday. It was eventually intended to enter the Tidy Towns contest.

College lands rezoning

Nicholas Simms reported on a meeting of Palmerston Road residents at which he and Eón Ó Cuív had represented the association. Arising out of the merger of the Church of Ireland College of Education with St Patrick College Drumcondra as part of DCU, the draft of DCC's latest 5 yearly development plan proposed to rezone the land between Cowper Downs and Purser Gardens as Z1 Residential/ Educational rather than the current Z15 (Educational).

Ideas that had come up at the meeting included:

- Keeping some of the site reserved for education
- Using space for playing field for other local school
- Retaining a fringe of trees by either tree preservation orders or the concept that they formed part of the curtilage of neighbouring houses.
- A concern to avoid general use of local laneways

The association would probably not get directly involved, but could offer advice and make observations on any issues of general interest.

Open Forum

Lighting in Annesley Road

Mary Carson asked if the lighting on Annesley Park could be improved, by either more lights or the pruning of overhanging trees.

Trees on Cambridge Road

Margaret Pyne spoke of the desirability of retaining the mature trees at the bottom of Cambridge Road and how one had recently been cut down, apparently to facilitate access to a rear garage. She also drew attention to the multiplication for street signs on Cambridge Road, particularly disc parking and dog fouling signs.

Nicholas Simms noted that there had been a recent increase in dog fouling signs all over the area covered by the association. This was due to a new 'blitz' policy by DCC and to representations made by residents.

Falling leaves

Enid O'Dowd raised the problem of people dumping the leaves they had swept up beside the Luas track, where it could potentially cause an obstruction. Nicholas Simms mentioned the related problem of people cutting overhanging branches in back lanes and leaving the cuttings to obstruct the lane.

Election of Road Representatives

The following were proposed as road representatives:

Annesley Park	no nominations	
Belgrave Square/Place/Villas:	Nicholas Simms	
Belgrave View	no nominations	
Belgrave Terrace	Emmy Morahan	(new)
Belgrave Road:	Eón Ó Cuív	
Beechwood Park	Nuala MacDwyer, Catherine Griffith	
Castlewood Park/ Avenue/Tce	no nominations	
Cambridge Road	Cliona Buckley	
Charleston Avenue:	Shelagh Jennings	
Church Avenue/Lane:	no nominations	
Church Gardens	Denise O'Connell	
Dunville Avenue	no nominations	
Killeen Road	Anne Mulligan	(new)
Moyne Road:	Valerie Coghlan	(new)
Oakley Road:	Nicholas Ffrench	
	Mary Keegan	
Ormond Road	Mary Crosbie	
Palmerston Court	Susan Ward	
Palmerston Road	Edward Kelly	
Windsor Road	Eamonn Walsh	(new)

There being no other nominations, all those proposed were deemed elected.

Shelagh Jennings welcomed Valerie Coghlan, Emmy Morahan, Anne Mulligan and Eamonn Walsh to the committee and thanked them for volunteering

Garden Competition

Shelagh announced that the winners of the 2015 competition were:

24 Annesley Park
40 Belgrave Road
23 Windsor Road

There being no further business, Shelagh Jennings closed the meeting.

A short drinks reception followed.

Belgrave Residents Association

4

23rd October 2015

Annual General Meeting

**Belgrave Residents Association
Income and Expenditure Account
1 October 2014 – 30 September 2015**

Income

Subscriptions		2590
	<u>2590</u>	

Expenditure

Planning Fees	170	
Newsletter	231	
AGM 2014 Expenses	417	
PO Box		280
Room hire	250	
Stationary and Printing		83
Bank Charges	22	
Subscriptions	60	
Fair in the Square	90	
	<u>1603</u>	

Surplus for year

Represented by:

Current Account	3891
Deposit Account	<u>2566</u>
	<u>6457</u>
Opening Balance 1/10/2014	5470
Surplus for the year	<u>987</u>
	<u>6457</u>

Prepared by:

**Catherine Griffith CPA
Hon. Treasurer**