

Carysfort/Maretimo Stream Improvement Scheme

A report following the public consultation process relating to the Carysfort/Maretimo Stream improvement scheme was brought to the Council recently. The scheme is a multi-million Euro engineering project the objective of which is to prevent a repeat of the flooding of last July (and previous instances of flooding). The report was approved and it is hoped that work will start early next year.

Traffic Measures at Deansgrange

Traffic engineers recently unveiled proposed new traffic measures at Deansgrange in order to alleviate congestion. These include banning the right turn into the existing entrance to the Deansgrange Business Park, providing a new entrance 90 metres further up towards Bakers Corner and a pedestrian crossing opposite the pedestrian access to Kill Abbey. A report on the matter will be brought to the Council later in the year.

Medical Personnel on Call

I have submitted a motion to the Council to amend the parking bye-laws so that doctors (and other medical personnel) can be exempt from parking charges while on call. Given the importance of health issues and the responsibilities of doctors, nurses and medical professionals I feel that it is unreasonable that they should be subject to parking fees whilst on important medical duties particularly in cases of emergency. If my motion is passed, the Council can then proceed to draft new bye-laws providing for the exemption.

Castlebyrne Park

Due to the design and layout of Castlebyrne Park persistent problems have developed in relation to the lack of parking for residents. Following a recent



Cllr Barry Conway with Minister Mary Hanafin at a recent public meeting

meeting with residents, Councillors and officials, the Council have agreed to draft a blueprint providing for extra parking for residents. This plan is awaited eagerly by residents and councillors.

Blackrock / Booterstown Park

A public meeting was recently held at Booterstown in relation to the Blackrock Park Master Plan. The meeting was also attended by Council officials. Whilst I feel that the Blackrock Park Master Plan generally represents a positive vision for the development of the park, it is also important that the park maintains a relaxed and peaceful ambience. The challenge facing officials and public representatives therefore is to entice more people into the park whilst at the same time preserving as much green space as possible.

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**CLLR. BARRY
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NEWSLETTER NO. 7



SUMMER 2008

Dear Resident,

I am writing to update you in relation to important developments in the County since my last newsletter earlier in the year.

The County Development Plan

This year sees the commencement of the review of the current county development plan. At a recent Council meeting I emphasised the need for planners to take more notice of the impact of planning on traffic. While traffic is a difficulty throughout the County, there are clearly a number of critical congestion points in the local road system. Planners need to be particularly conscious of the impact of planning permissions on these locations.

Improvements at Seapoint

The Council recently agreed improvements at Seapoint with the Seapoint Swimmers Association. These include aesthetic improvements, extra railings for safety purposes, signage for the safety of bathers and other improvements. Consultants are to be appointed shortly to draw up a blue print for the physical and aesthetic improvement of the area surrounding the Martello Tower. I welcome the Council's commitment in this regard and would also like to commend the Seapoint Swimmers Association for vigorously pursuing the various issues.

Grants for the Adaptation of Houses for the Elderly and the Disabled

The government recently announced €71.4 million for the funding of Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and people with disabilities in private houses for 2008. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council is to receive just under €2 million. These schemes are vital in enabling



Cllr Barry Conway highlighting the litter problem in the County (Courtesy Gazette Group Newspapers)

older people and people with disabilities to live their lives with dignity.

In 2007 expenditure by local authorities on the adaptation of public housing for the elderly and the disabled increased nationally by €9.5 million to €81.2 million.

Apartment Living

I have initiated a survey of apartment dwellers in the Blackrock area in order to ascertain their views as to the benefits and drawbacks of apartment living in the County and what measures can be done to improve apartment living. Issues covered by the survey include management service charges, responsiveness of the management company, design of apartments etc. Given the number of apartment developments in recent years it is imperative that the planning system encourages the highest quality developments and that these developments are conducive to community and family living.

Over-Flights

A Number of residents in Blackrock recently complained of aircraft overflying the area in the early hours of the morning. I passed on these complaints to the Dublin Airport Authority. These over-flights arose because the main east/west runway at Dublin Airport was undergoing essential maintenance and planes were forced to use the north/south runway. When there is a northerly wind planes returning to their base at Dublin Airport using this secondary runway take a flight path that carries them over the Blackrock/Boosterstown area. The recent experience of residents underlines the need to ensure that a parallel runway is built on an east/west basis at the earliest opportunity so that maintenance works can be effected without altering flight paths. It also highlights the lack of regulation of aircraft noise pollution in Dublin.

Dublin Mountains

Council management have recently unveiled a vision for enhancing the amenity and recreational value of the Dublin Mountains. The plan includes the provision of trails including a Dublin Mountains Way similar to the Wicklow Way. The vision also contemplates the establishment of a body to oversee the protection and enhancement of the mountains. This body will include representatives of the various statutory bodies involved, walkers, farmers and other stakeholders.

Hollypark and Foxrock Avenue

I am delighted to note the repair of the footpaths in Hollypark and Foxrock Avenue. This work was long overdue and reflects the persistent lobbying by the residents' association and myself and other local councillors.