

Minutes 30th May 2016

You said The playground has not been opened in over 2 years, older children still gaining access and using the equipment. When will it be properly opened?

Response:

Maintenance, cleaning, opening and closing still a concern as there is a cost involved but partners are working on a solution

You said Shops are in a dreadful state and are a real eyesore that brings the whole area down. The shops attract large groups of youths who, by their presence alone, intimidate shoppers who will not shop there anymore. The youth have regularly brought a Shetland Pony to the shops where the unfortunate animal leaves a poop trails along the ground.

Another possible holding place for horses is at the empty space behind Riversdale Community College.

There are 3 horses in Corduff at present

Response:

Fingal County Council has had 240 horses impounded over the past 12 months and will have no hesitation impounding any horse found tied up in the estate. Residents must also play a role and let the council know where these horses are being kept and who owns them.

You Said Brookhaven is experiencing a lot of break-ins especially over the weekends. There were five over the weekend of 15/16th May. First it was Brookhaven Rise, then the Park and then the Lawn. One van had its window broken on the same weekend. Brookhaven residents feel brushed aside as they don't see any Garda presence in the area.

Response:

Gardaí have some indication as to who may be responsible and have set up a targeted operation to try to catch the culprit/s. Gardaí had some incidents reported to them but not all. People need to report each and every incident otherwise Gardaí will not be aware of what is going on.

You said People have reported to Gardaí and got no response

Response:

If this happens again please report directly to the Inspector and give as much detail about the call as you can.

You said The good work of Garda Nail Phelan is well recognised in the area as he resolved a lot of issues but he has been promoted and we now have no community Garda.

Response:

There is a commitment to run a competition within An Garda Siochana for the position vacated by Nail and this should happen over the next 8 weeks. Funding has been made available for additional patrols, along with other patrols, to target burglaries and other serious crimes in Blanchardstown

You said Anti-social behaviour, being committed by the same group of individuals at the shops, has been reported for about two and a half years now and still nothing has changed with no improvement “I don’t ring anymore”.

The local Centra shop has only one security guard who is terrified of the gang of 30 to 40 young people who hang around the shops drinking, using/selling drugs and robbing.

The area has been called ground zero with people from Finglas, Swords and Ballyfermot being attracted in to the area.

What this gang needs is low level, move on type of harassment. These young adults have been reported since they were children.

Response:

Garda will meet with shop keepers following this meeting to address issues of concern raised. In order to proceed through the courts Fingal County Council needs to have a significant amount of reports in relation to particular residents. Residents were assured of confidentiality and it was confirmed that if information is passed to Fingal the person who passes on the information will never be identified or required to appear in court. These people know the legal system and will challenge everything so Fingal needs as much information as possible and the more reports in relation to a particular individual/family the better. All reports are followed up in the strictest confidence but the courts are very reluctant, especially in today's housing environment, to evict a family. Statutory bodies very responsive but need substantive evidence of how persons behaviour affects other residents in the area. Confidentiality is paramount and no breach will take place. Fingal County Council has spent significant millions of euros on improvements in the Corduff area.

You said There is a very small cohort of individuals, probably 5 or 6, consistently arrested for various crimes on numerous occasions. Crimes such as drug dealing, robbery etc. and Fingal needs to act against these tenancy

Response:

Fingal County Council and Gardaí meet on a regular basis in relation to information received in regards to anti-social behaviour and criminal activity in council estates. The Council can only act against their own tenants, even in council estates. Persons engaging in criminal activity who are not council tenants are a matter for the Gardaí. In order to gain a conviction which may lead to sentencing in the courts Fingal/Gardaí need hard evidence, even though this is extremely hard to come by they will nevertheless continue to work hard to get this evidence. As stated above the courts are very reluctant to make anyone homeless in today's housing climate.

You said The motor bike that is consistently driven on the green space between Sheephill and Westway is being driven by the same person .

Response:

Gardaí were made aware of this motorbike two nights ago but need to see who the driver is. At this point we don't

know where the bike is being held but we have methods to find out. It is not possible for Gardaí or Fingal to get into a cat and mouse chase with motorbikes

You said The same behaviours: drug dealing, robbing and anti-social behaviour are being carried on by the same people over and over again

Response:

Drug dealing was brought up at a previous meeting, as a result Gardaí put a special operation in place which resulted in 18 people being brought before the courts

Garda Question: Has there been any noticeable improvement in policing in the area

Answer: No

You Said The main road running from Corduff Crescent to shops needs ramps to eliminate speeding.

Boulders in the area need to be removed, initial reason for placing them in current locations have passed. They now are only used for places to sit and drink etc. and attract lots of ASB.

Grass cutting need more attention to detail as large patches of uncut long grass undo all the good work

Response:

Fingal County Council Operations Dept. will look into the above

Community Representative:

Aaron Buckley presented himself for election to the position of community representative for Corduff on to the Board of Management of Safer Blanchardstown:

Aaron was un-opposed and was duly selected as community rep. for Corduff