

Safer Blanchardstown public Meeting.2 Mulhuddart June 14th 2011

1. oPresent:

Liam Burke- Fingal County Council
Ann Marie Farrelly- Fingal County Council
Sarah Moonan - Fingal County Council
Insp John Kelly - Gardaí
Sgt Vincent Connelly- Gardaí
Breffni O'Rourke- RAPID (**Chair**)
Philip Jennings- Safer Blanchardstown (**Facilitator**)

2. o Welcome

2.1 Cha 2.1Chair welcomed everyone, presented list of issues from

3.o Rules

last meeting and informed residents that Fingal County Council and Gardaí would present a progress report for the last 12 mths. Chair paid the meetings respect to the late Brian Lenihan TD, RIP Phillip informed residents of the rules of the meeting and made a brief presentation on behalf of Mulhuddart Community Youth Project entitled "Crime-watch Mulhuddart" and introduced their Car Restoration Project

4.o Garda

4.1 Insp J Kelly informed residents of new Garda Superintendent ,Pat Calvin

Report

4.2 There are four (4) community Gardaí assigned to the Mulhuddart area.

4.3 Extra Gardaí on duty at Halloween and this had a very positive affect

4.4 Operation Rapid was launched in the Mulhuddart area and involved higher visibility, increased patrols, check points, searches and stopping of known suspects. The operation was planned for a 10/12 day period but will continue into July in Mulhuddart

4.5 The Garda clinic in the community centre will also meet in local school so that parents dropping/picking up children at school can speak to Gardaí if they wish.

4.6 In order to address residents issues relating to phone not being answered in the station a full time receptionist has been employed 9 to 5, to answer the phone during office hours.

4.7 The number of calls to Blanchardstown Station are 20% higher then other stations

4.8 There is a new processing and dispatch system in place which should improve response times

4.9

4.10 Statistics:

Drugs seized: Arrests made, charges brought
Check points: Arrest of drink driver during bank holiday
Clothing collection: Van stopped and search
Criminal damage: Person charged
Buzardstown House broken windows: 2 youths caught on CCTV
Tyrrelstown assault on Taxi driver: 4 youths charged
Wellview assault on lady: Arrest made
Stabbing incident: Arrest made
Firearm discharge: Arrest made & file sent to DPP
Information from local residents lead to arrest

4.11 Any person before the courts can apply for and get bail, it is entirely at the discretion of the judge on the day.

4.12 Gardaí need sufficient information and more importantly evidence in order to reduce the chance for offenders, especially repeat offenders, in getting bail

5.0 Fingal County Council Report

5.1 Liam Burke Fingal County Council Housing/Community gave a

Presentation on policy and responsibility

5.2 Copies of Fingal County Council ASB Strategy were made available for residents but copies had already been delivered to every home in Council housing estates.

5.3 FCC works with the Garda and local residents through the various committees and agencies in the area to provide help and support with issues and plans for improving the area.

5.4 Work has been done in relation to cars driving too fast by having ramps on the roads.

5.5 The parks dept has been working with residents and the local school and community project in relation to reclaiming the park. Planting days and clean ups were arranged.

5.6 Community games were held and a family day was also organized.

5.7 FCC acknowledged the work, help and support from local residents and agencies in making this happen.

5.8 The works are continuing in the park and the hope is to return the football clubs and youth groups back into the park.

5.9 Works carried out in Wellview were high quality and up grading will continue

5.10 It is tenant's responsibility to paint walls and replace windows

5.11 House painting is on a rota system

5.12 Removal of rubbish from vacant houses and gardens will be carried out.

5.13 Grass verges will be cut by Fingal County Council.

6.1 People angry and frustrated

6.0 Responses form residents

6.2 Calls for Fingal County Council to fix their homes not plant trees were echoed in the room.

6.3 Lots has been done by FCC and Gardaí but the level if intimidation and fear is a barrier for residents participating in their community.

6.4 ASB in Mulhuddart is higher then other areas of Blanchardstown.

6.5 Need to collate info on perpetrators in Mulhuddart and target these individuals

6.6 Turn around empty houses ASAP so that they do not become magnets for ASB

- 6.7 No out of hours service in FCC but Mulhuddart needs one
- 6.8 FCC need to look at breaches of tenancy with residents and enforce their policy relation to such breaches
- 6.9 Tyrrelstown have same problems but on a smaller scale
- 6.10 It is important to ring and report all ASB to the FCC/Gardaí and give as much detail as you can.
- 6.11 People's confidence is at an all time low.
- 6.12 Issues of ASB and intimidation are escalating
- 6.13 Some residents have been forced to leave their homes due to fear and a feeling of getting nowhere,
- 6.14 There is a lack of services and agencies working together
- 6.15 There is a lot of intimidation and fear in all areas of Mulhuddart including the Nurseries and Parslickstown Court
- 6.16 ASB is on the rise with gangs hanging around
- 6.17 Cars driving at speed all hours of day and night spreading fear in the community
- 6.18 It was suggested that a CCTV system in Mulhuddart would alleviate a lot of the problems in the area

7.0 Comments

- 7.1 Nuala Kane Mulhuddart LCDP Project committed to working with FCC, Garda and local residents to help build community participation and relationships.
- 7.2 Vincent Wellview Green HSE: Wellview engage with many young people and their families experiencing ASB. The affects ASB has on children is hugely important this is real for these families. Agencies need to be aware of this to stand together and unite against ASB
- 7.3 There are residents groups and they need to work together to help community have a stronger voice

Phillip passed meeting back to Chair who thanked all present & closed meeting