

Notes from Malahide Community Forum May 2014

1. **Planning & Development:**

Robswall / Coast Road (F14A/0160): Objection has been lodged to proposed sign on grounds of size, scale and location.

The Westbury Club (F14A/0163): Objection has been lodged to retention and extension of previously unapproved sign.

Therapie Clinic (F13A/0182): Matter of unapproved sign is still in hands of FCC Law Agent. The meeting was briefed on the additional information requested by FCC on 2 planning applications at Seamount, F14A/0105 and 0106.

It was noted that there is a new application for demolition and development at Michael White's shop on Church Road, which should appear on the next planning list.

2. **Transport:** The Chair of the Transport subcommittee attended the launch of the Malahide Public Realm Strategy and advised that there are several transport issues covered under "Movement" including traffic, pedestrianisation, station access etc. The Strategy can be viewed at http://www.fingalcoco.ie/media/Malahide_Public_Realm.pdf and it deals very specifically with many matters which the Forum has been addressing.

There was discussion on whether various coffee shops are exceeding their permitted boundary line for street tables and chairs.

It was suggested that coffee shops should clean the pavements outside their premises.

3. **Environment:** It was noted that the grass banks opposite Seabank were cut for the Giro d'Italia and this had been badly needed.

The Chairman attended the launch of the Public Realm Strategy and was given an update on some projects currently in progress: The Tourism App should be launched very shortly, bicycle racks will be installed at the library and Marina Green before the end of the summer and traffic light timing at The Diamond will be adjusted to allow pedestrians to cross diagonally. FCC is working in conjunction with the Chamber to design a colour palette for village shop fronts, which should be published within 4-6 months. Increased seating around the village was confirmed and there is a plan to improve pedestrian access at both ends of James Terrace.

On the issue of overgrown shrubbery at Bissett's Strand we were advised that this falls under the responsibility of the householder and it was agreed that the Residents' Association will action. It was agreed to contact FCC re the overgrown shrubbery at the entrance to the Bridgefield car park.

We are advised that no site has yet been chosen for the new Educate Together School but it will not be in Waterside.

Forum will contact Iarnród Éireann re water pooling on bridge steps at station.

4. **Neighbourhood Watch:** The Text Alert service will be launched at the next Neighbourhood Watch meeting. There are 7 Residents Associations signed up for the first phase with a further 6 expected to be ready for the second phase.

House break-ins are still an issue in the area. Since the beginning of the year 92% of the houses broken into either did not have an alarm or the alarm was not activated. The high risk time for burglaries is between 4 and 8pm.

Despite numerous warnings by Gardaí people parking in the castle or beach car parks are still leaving valuables visible in cars, which is resulting in break-ins. Also criminals are watching out for people who park and then put valuables in their car boots. Many cars are still being left unlocked on driveways and are being broken into so greater care is needed by householders.