

Croke Park Community Meeting

4th October 2011

Ash Suite, Cusack Stand, Croke Park

Meeting Minutes

Representing Croke Park:

Criostoir O Cuana, Uachtarán Cumann Luthchleas Gael

Peter McKenna, Stadium Director

Ger Dorgan, Community Liaison Officer

Julie Manahan, Stadium Management Team

The minutes are not a transcript but a summary of the discussions and any issues which arose at the meeting.

Criostoir O Cuana welcomed everyone and outlined the agenda for the evening.

Ger Dorgan presented on update on the activities since the previous meeting.

Peter McKenna presented an update on new projects.

Barbara Ward: Reported issue with cleaning in the area and said Fitzroy Av had not been properly cleaned since Football Final.

Charlie Lowe Dublin City Council: Complaints from Barbara Ward were forwarded to relevant people in DCC.

Conor Daly: Asked who is responsible for stewarding at the barriers on match days. He felt steward had no authority to ask residents for ID to access Foster Terrace.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: To look into why certain cars are permitted to leave within the cordon when patrons on streets

Willie Spence: Asked why there were matches on Saturdays in 2011 when C. Cooney stated a year ago there would be no more matches on Saturdays.

Criostoir O Cuana: Advised there was no commitment re matches on Saturdays only that they were avoided as much as possible.

Willie Spence: Asked for gates on a certain laneway and whether Croke Park was against it and stated that the gate would go up regardless.

P. McKenna: He had agreed a key for the gate on the condition that residents obtained public liability insurance. He stated that Croke Park was approached by Dublin City Council regarding the redevelopment of Croke Villas and this was currently under discussion.

Kathleen Kennedy: Claimed that there was no way Croke Park was going to extend the Hogan Suite as planned.

Peter McKenna: He was disappointed that Kathleen Kennedy had raised the issue as he had met with her to explain the proposed plans for the Hogan Suite. Croke Park agreed in court to conduct sound monitoring and change the exiting procedures when late night events took place. He agreed to investigate triple glazing the Hogan Suite and this had been done but may not offer a solution.

Frank Leonard: Requested that meetings should start later to facilitate more people.

Criostoir O Cuana: Agreed start time of 8pm for future meetings.

Frank Leonard: Asked should the Handball Centre be renovated, would the elements of the existing centre remain.

Peter McKenna: Said a meeting was arranged with 4 representatives of the Centre under Insp. Tony Gallagher. Three questions were put to the group, but no response had been given to date.

Colm Donnery: Felt residents would give approval for the new handball Centre provided a bar would be included in the new plan. The group met with the Croke Park architect and gave their proposals which included a bar. The group are seeking legal advice.

Peter McKenna: Stated there was no response from the group to Croke Park.

Colm Donnery: Asked what was the position regarding people living within the cordon areas receiving medical attention on match days and cited an issue in August involving his partner when a doctor refused to attend.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: He stated there were very illustrative plans in place on match days. There were 2 emergency routes from the stadium and had a doctor contacted the stadium, access would have been granted.

Colm Donnery: He stated Aviva has a doctor on duty to provide medical attention to patrons outside the stadium and asked would Croke Park provide the same.

Peter McKenna: Advised Colm to obtain the Event Management Document from Aviva. The doctor on duty in question is in attendance due to a potential accident regarding the Dart.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: He stated that the Gardaí would facilitate medical emergencies on match days and that there is always a link between the Gardaí on the barriers to the Control Centre. He further advised Colm Donnery that Gardaí were willing to assist residents in emergency

Sandra Dowdall: Stated she was hit at the U2 concert and when she rang the Gardaí there were no staff to assist.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: Stated he was aware of the above incident and stressed the particular Garda should have been more helpful and that the issue was addressed by Supt. Sean Ward

Female resident (did not give name): She mentioned that a resident took ill during a concert and that there was no problem with emergency services dealing with it.

Barbara Ward: Asked if the Gardaí could provide the number of arrests relating to disorderly behaviour and people urinating on the streets.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: He stated there was no power of arrest for people urinating on the streets.

Male resident (did not give name): Asked why Dublin City Council and Croke Park were not attending to litter in residents' gardens in captive areas, and also asked what Croke Park's view was.

Charlie Lowe DCC: Advised there was an insurance issue in accessing gardens to clear rubbish. Dublin City Council would accommodate residents if they put rubbish in bags outside the garden for collection. He also mentioned that residents could contact the Litter Hotline in Dublin City.

Colm Donnery: Stressed that littering needs to be policed and had no problem with guards in the area.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: Asked Colm to raise it at the Community Policing Forum and revert to Tony who would write it into the plans.

P.J. Connolly: Asked how tickets were allocated for matches.

Julie Manahan: Stated there was a draw for an opportunity to purchase tickets for the All Ireland Finals. 125 people are contacted for each event and pairs of tickets allocated. Details regarding the residents' database are on the Croke Park website.

Declan O Muineachain: Asked if information on the Community Fund is included on the Croke Park website and if the newsletters include ongoing projects.

Julie Manahan: Confirmed Croke Park had 46 applications to date in 2011 and details of all approved projects would be available at the end of the year on the Croke Park website. Details are currently available for projects funded in 2009 and 2010.

Julie Manahan: Answering a query on whether funding was given to groups outside the area, she confirmed that projects can be from within a radius of 1.5 km. She stressed that Croke Park would like to renewal calls to encourage people within the community to apply and should any group need assistance with the applications process, they should contact CLO, Ger Dorgan.

Kathleen Kennedy: Asked had concert dates been decided for 2012 and asked that there would be no buses permitted on Jones Road during concert times.

Peter McKenna: No update as yet but confirmed the Eucharistic Congress was taking place in June 2012.

Aileen Foran Community Centre Distillery Road: Advised the meeting that she was setting up an active age group within the Centre as well as many other activities at the centre.

Criostoir O Cuana: Stated that Sean Kilbride was working on social initiatives on behalf of the GAA and suggested that Aileen Foran make contact with him.

Barbara Ward: Asked for a Garda presence at the bus stop at Clonliffe Rd/Drumcondra Road on match to make way for the buses to stop.

Insp. Tony Gallagher: It is the intention to have a taxi regulator in situ in the above area on match days where there is a large attendance. He stated that there were 2 sergeants and 15 Gardaí on duty around the area after the All Ireland Football Final. He said he would bring statistics relating to the All Irelands to the next meeting.

Colm Donnery: Suggested we include the implementation of electronic signage in advance of the matches outlining the start time of the cordon, similar to the Emirates Stadium in London.

Criostoir O Cuana: Gave a commitment that this could be discussed with Dublin City Council.

Criostoir O Cuana: thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 9pm.