



GVRA

*Glasnevin  
Village*

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER 2020

# Glasnevin Village Residents Association

## Newsletter -Autumn 2020

### Welcome and Introduction

Welcome to the Autumn 2020 edition of our newsletter.

Our Association started last year, to bring the community together and improve the quality of life in our village. At our Annual General Meeting on 27 January 2020, we approved the Constitution of the Association. While activities were interrupted somewhat by the impact of the coronavirus, the Committee continued to meet, and we have achieved quite a bit over the past year, as set out below.

### New Centrepiece



We were delighted that Dublin City Council agreed to re-work the planting area outside the Bon Secours Hospital. This area had become overgrown and unsightly, and is now beautifully planted. And of course we now have a new centrepiece for the Village - a Washerwoman's pump.

### Signage

Dublin City Council has now confirmed that our request for signage in the Village has been approved.

## Village planting

DCC also provided us with planters and bedding plants, which you will have seen at various places in the Village.

A huge thank you to the Glasnevin/Cabra office of Dublin City Council, who provided the centrepiece, the planting, and the cleaning equipment (see below). We are very grateful for their input.

## Village Clean-up

Lisa Cavern has been doing terrific work in leading the team of volunteers to keep our Village clean. The team provides tools, high-viz jackets and rubbish bags, so manual labour only is required ! Over 30 residents have helped out on at least one clean up, and the group has filled hundreds of rubbish bags since the start of the year. Clean ups happen at various times, starting outside the XL shop opposite the Bon Secours Hospital. We are always looking for more volunteers - if you can help, please text Lisa on 086 3210670, and she will add you to the 'Glasnevin Clean-up' What's App group.

Following our requests, DCU Alpha have agreed to cut back the trees and ivy overflowing from their premises onto Old Ballymun Road and the Met Office has also tidied up their premises.

We have also applied for resurfacing of the damaged pavements on Ballymun Road Lower, Saint Mobhi Drive and Botanic Road, from the bridge to the Botanic Gardens.



Dublin City Lighting Department have painted the lamp posts from the Bank of Ireland corner to our Parish Church. When budget allows, they will paint the rest.

## **Bins**

A particular challenge we face is rubbish being discarded in the Village, especially outside the Botanic Gardens at the weekend. We submitted a request to DCC for 10 new large-capacity solar compactor bins. The council has agreed to supply them, and we hope they will be installed in the coming weeks.

## **Tolka River**

We have been asking various authorities to conduct a detailed review of the stretch of the River Tolka that runs through the Village. As you know, some of the trees overhang the river and the banks have become overgrown in parts. A number of different bodies have responsibility for different aspects of the river, and we encouraged them to apply some 'joined up thinking' to ensure that improvements are made in an environmentally appropriate manner.

## **Parking**

As we all know, parking in the village by non-residents is a particular challenge. Parking spaces (on, for example, Saint Mobhi Drive and Glasnevin Hill) are often occupied, on an all-day basis, by people working in the Village or in the City. At weekends, motorists often park illegally outside the Botanic Gardens, blocking both the cycle lane and the footpath.

We have recently written to Dublin Corporation making various suggestions as to how the parking situation might be improved with a view to making parking available for short-term visitors to the Gardens, Hospital, Church or Village shops. In its response, the Corporation confirmed that parking enforcement will be stepped up. They also indicated that other parking schemes are on hold at present, pending progress on BusConnects.

We also lobbied successfully for the cycle lane along Botanic Avenue, including outside the Botanic Gardens to be converted to a seven-day cycle lane.

## **Village walk - Pat Liddy**



Source of photo: GLASNEVIN HERITAGE <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yacMlrhAvw>

We had hoped to have a Village walk with historian Pat Liddy, but that has been postponed due to the pandemic. Hopefully we will be able to arrange in the future.

## BusConnects

Glasnevin Village Urban Realm Improvement



Source of image: Draft Proposal for BusConnects Glasnevin Village 26th November 2019

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's plan for 16 new rapid bus corridors in Dublin.

Following the announcement of the proposed route for our area, we held two meetings with the NTA, suggesting various improvements to their proposed routes. In the most recent proposed

'preferred route', a number of our suggestions were taken on board.

Some features of the current proposals are:

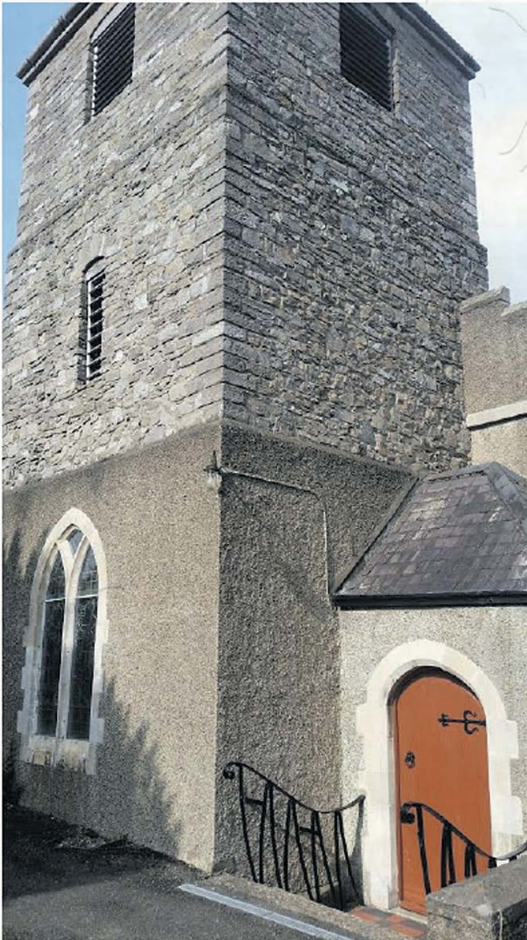
- Public realm improvements in the Village, including altering the Botanic Avenue/Botanic Road junction and creating space for outdoor tables, etc.
- Creating a pedestrian crossing at the Bon Secours Hospital
- Dedicated cycle lanes along Glasnevin Hill and Saint Mobhi Drive
- Making part of Old Ballymun Road one way (into town)
- Banning northbound traffic on Saint Mobhi Road during the evening rush hour, instead diverting it either via Finglas Road/Tolka Estate/Griffith Avenue or via Glasnevin Hill/Cremore Villas/Griffith Avenue

In addition, amendments to parking in the Village are under consideration.

For details of the current proposals for the Village see:

<https://busconnects.ie/media/1818/03-ballymun-to-city-centre-preferred-route-190220-fa-web.pdf>

## Saint Mobhi Church



The laneway alongside Saint Mobhi's church has been closed to the public since February.

This was done in consultation with Dublin City Council after the old church wall was assessed by a structural engineer to be at risk of collapse following the sudden collapse of the eastern end of the wall into the Bon Secours Hospital.

Since then, parish representatives have been prioritising a project to stabilise the wall which would allow the laneway to reopen.

The project is complex given the age and nature of this heritage site which has national monument status.

The church has secured grant funding which will cover part of the costs involved, and is actively fundraising to cover the rest.

A Go-Fund-Me page has been established for anyone who would like to help with the effort:

<https://ie.gofundme.com/f/st-mobhis-glasnevin-church-wall>

Although Covid-19 has delayed progress, the good news is that remediation works are planned to commence shortly along the northern section to allow the laneway to reopen as soon as possible.

## Former Denis Mahony site



You will have seen that, following requests by the Committee, the site has been cleaned up. No date has yet been set for the commencement of construction works.

### Community Activities

We plan to integrate with other relevant organisations. In that regard, we have:

- applied to enter the City of Neighbourhoods competition.
- applied for membership of the Dublin City Public Participation Network.
- met with members of the Stoneybatter Residents Association.
- applied and been allocated a small grant from Croke Park Community Fund.

We are also keen to link in with local businesses to see how we can work together going forward.

### Christmas

We are looking for ideas on how to brighten up the Village over the Christmas period - all suggestions gratefully received!

## Committee

Your Committee members are:

- David Meagher (Chair)
- Susan Dunne (Secretary)
- Peter Martin (Treasurer)
- Colette Casey
- Áine Dennehy
- David Gough

## Local Councillors

For information the local Councillors for Cabra Glasnevin are:

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For information, the local councillors for Cabra Glasnevin are:

- Darcy Lonergan, Green Party [dllrdarcylonergan@gmail.com](mailto:dllrdarcylonergan@gmail.com)
  - Seamas McGrattan Sinn Fein [seamas.mcgrattan@dublincity.ie](mailto:seamas.mcgrattan@dublincity.ie)
  - Declan Menage Labour Party [declan.meenagh@dublincity.ie](mailto:declan.meenagh@dublincity.ie)
  - Cat O Driscoll Social Democrats [cat.odriscoll@dublincity.ie](mailto:cat.odriscoll@dublincity.ie)
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- Mary Fitzpatrick [mary.fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie](mailto:mary.fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie)

## Get in touch

- Please add your name to our email distribution list -email [gvra.info@gmail.com](mailto:gvra.info@gmail.com) or text David on 087 7441847 or Susan on 087 3579552 and you will be added to the distribution list.
- If you could indicate in your email or text how you would like to receive updates from the GVRA in the future -Facebook, Website, Newsletter, Email or a Whatsapp group.

For more information, please contact the committee members listed above or email [gvra.info@gmail.com](mailto:gvra.info@gmail.com) or text David on 087 7441847 or Susan on 087 3579552.

P.S. The committee wishes to offer our condolences to Peter our treasurer and the Martin family on the recent death of their mother Brona. Brona was very well known in Glasnevin, having lived and participated in our community for over 50 years.

Go Raibh Dheis de ar a Anam