

**Tuairisc/Reporting Template for Galway City
Community Network (GCCN) Reps**

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info@galwaycitycommunitynetwork.ie



Galway City Community Network
Líonra Pobail Chathair Na Gaillimhe

Cruinniú /Name of Meeting	Galway City Council Environment, Recreation and Amenity SPC
Ionadaí FPCG (glacadóir - nótaí) Name of GCCF Rep (note-taker)	Edwin Brennan
Dáta & Suite Date & Location of Meeting:	24-Feb-2016 - Council Chamber, Galway City Council
I láthair/ Attendance	Edwin Brennan and Brendan Smith (GCCN Reps) Apologies - Eleanor Hough

Príomhphointí pléite / Key Issues Discussed:

1. Presentation received from Paula Walsh – Design by Compass. New very detailed map of Galway City Centre and surrounds. Key heritage sites and local landmarks are included. Agreed to refer to the Economic Development SPC to work with Fáilte Ireland on updating city maps for all.
2. Discussion on Master Plan for South Park and Kingston – Keith Mitchell on behalf of CSR planning gave an overview of the proposed works and time lines for both lands. A public consultation (public meetings etc) process will take place over the Summer months to come up with an initial design for presentation to the full council in September 2016. The South Park project will include enhancement of the park, walk way extension amongst other things. The private landowners will be contacted shortly regarding the site at Kingston which is zoned Rec&Amenity. It may be necessary to carry out this project on a phased basis to deliver the optimum master plan.
3. Management and Operation of Cemeteries –(i) Due to updated Health and Safety regulations current plots that are excavated by hand will be only be dug to a max of 4ft 6 (capacity of 2). It will not affect those graves dug by excavator. (ii) The council will no longer take responsibility for carrying the remains once the hearse enters the cemetery. This will now be the responsibility of the undertaker and family. The grave will be prepared and access clear to the grave site. (iii) The issue of maintenance of graves of those who are homeless was raised – the Director informed the meeting the council cemetery staff upkeep those graves as best they can, given the staffing constraints that they currently have.
4. Development of New Cemetery Site – (i) A number of possible sites have been identified by the in-house council committee. They have been in consultation with various land owners with a view to assess the suitability and soil content. (ii) The community reps raised the importance of access to any new site by public transport as well as those with various levels of ability which the Director will keep as a key factor before deciding on any new site. (iii) The life time of the Bohermore cemetery is currently apx. 2 years while Ragoon is apx. 5 years. (iv) The idea of provided a remembrance wall for those who have been cremated was suggested. This will be raised at the next council meeting as well as the next SPC meeting.
5. New Draft Park Bye-Laws - (i) The draft bye-laws were presented at the meeting. Members were asked to review them ahead of the next meeting and revert with comments 2 weeks beforehand.
6. Blackrock Tower Upgrade Project - (i) The consultation process is underway and a first stage report was presented which included feedback from various stakeholders including – heritage, safety, water safety, wild life and parks and the Dept Env, Com and Local Gov. A public consultation night will be held in March/April 2016. Planning permission will be sought in May 2016, Tender docs in June 2016 and commencement in 2017. (ii) The community reps raised the issue of accessibility to the area by people with disabilities and the council will look at ramp access (or equivalent). (iii) It was suggested that the works be carried out outside of the main Summer season.
7. Terryland Forest Park presentation – Deferred to the next meeting.
8. Work Program for 2016 – Any updated work program for 2016 was circulated.

Socruithe déanta/ Key Decisions Made:

Gníomhaíochtaí

Action(s) required from GCCN:

1. Public Consultation on the South Park and Kingston Master Plans will take place over the Summer months.
2. Public Consultation on the Blackrock Diving Tower will take place in March/April 2016.
3. Review and feedback on draft parks bye-laws ahead of the next meeting on June 1st 2016.

Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile
Date of next meeting :

June 1st 2016.

Moltaí breise /Any Other Comments:

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