

Website: www.ionaanddistrictresidentsassociation.com Email: indra.email@gmail.com
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CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE

This year's IDRA AGM will take place in the main function room of the Maples House Hotel on Thursday May 23. The meeting will start at 7.30pm sharp. Committee members will be on site from 7pm to welcome attendees and take membership subscriptions.

I feel 2023 was a year of consolidation in the aftermath of two years of near inactivity due to the Covid pandemic. As we move towards the AGM, I want to put out a call for interested residents to get involved in the IDRA committee. We meet once a month and there will be no shortage of projects to get involved in.

Some of the initiatives undertaken during the past year include the development of our website www.ionaanddistrictresidentsassociation.com. This work was undertaken by committee members and the website was softly launched over the Christmas period. Traffic to the website has been slowly building, development will continue over the coming months and plans are advanced to add an option to pay membership subscriptions online in the near future. We also have a local history page and I would encourage residents to submit any stories of a local historical interest by email to indra.email@gmail.com.

During the year the Committee undertook a refresh of the association's Constitution – you can access the updated document on our website. These changes will be presented at the AGM for approval by members.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY will be held on **Saturday June 8** and residents can pick up brooms, brushes and bags from **St. Columba's School, Iona Road at 10am.**

THE ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY returns on **Sunday June 23** in the grounds of **St. Columba's Church, Iona Road.** It is always a very enjoyable day with lots of activities for the young and not so young. The starting time is **1pm.**

CURRENT LIST OF DCC COUNCILLORS:

Darcy Lonergan	Green Party	cllr.darcylonergan@gmail.com
Eimer McCormack	Fianna Fáil	eimer.mccormack@dublincity.ie
Séamas McGrattan	Sinn Féin	seamas.mcgrattan@dublincity.ie
Declan Meenagh	Labour	declan.meenagh@dublincity.ie
Cat O' Driscoll	Social Democrats	cat.odriscoll@socialdemocrats.ie
Colm O'Rourke	Fine Gael	colm.orourke@dublincity.ie
Cieran Perry	Independent	cieran.perry@gmail.com

Thanks to local resident Paul Collins a local area clean-up was launched in January. Volunteers meet on the last Saturday of the month at 9.30am outside St Columba's Church, Iona Road. Cleaning equipment and high visibility vests are supplied.

Following discussions at committee level we agreed to begin a Automated External Defibrillator (AED) defibrillator installation project. Funding was applied for and received from the Croke Park Community Fund and as I write this, we are in the process of purchasing the hardware and with the agreement of the management of the Maples House Hotel, the device will be installed inside the porch doors of the hotel allowing for 24 hour access.

Finally, as with most years we have a number of committee members stepping down. David Walsh and Leo McNamee have both contributed significantly to the efficient and effective running of the association during their involvement with IDRA and we wish them success in their future endeavours.

Best regards

Noel Rigney
Chairperson



IDRA OFFICERS:

CHAIR:

Noel Rigney

SECRETARY/ CROKE PARK REP:

Carol Lynch

TREASURER/ENVIRONMENT REP:

Bronagh McCrystal

PLANNING REPS:

Carmel Sherry

Ciaran Mullarkey

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Andrew Quinn

TRAFFIC REP:

Leo McNamee (stepping down)

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

David Walsh (stepping down)

Mary Fitzpatrick

Zach Kelly

Martin Tynan

Paul Sheane (stepping down)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme has been very successful in helping to reduce crime in the IDRA area and enhancing good relations between the residents and the Community Garda team. We currently have 11 streets in the area taking part in the scheme, with two more actively canvassed.

We would love to get every street in the IDRA area to participate in the scheme. It only requires a minimum one or two residents in a street to allow the scheme to be put in place.

The scheme requires residents to be vigilant and to contact the Garda if they see an incident or suspicious activity in your locality. We would also set up a WhatsApp group for the street for residents to forewarn their neighbours of such incidents in real time.

If you would like to join the scheme, please scan the QR Code below which will take you to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Page on the IDRA website and leave us your contact details (name, address, contact no and email. Alternatively you could complete the paper form that has also been provided.

Andrew Quinn

Area Coordinator



IDRA PLANNING UPDATE

The IDRA Planning Sub-Committee continues to monitor planning developments in the area with a particular focus on multiple unit developments, and adherence to proper planning and proposals that may undermine the integrity of Residential Conservation Areas.

One of the key areas of focus of IDRA is to monitor planning development and to maintain the planning standards and appropriate development of our area which is of the utmost importance in order to preserve our heritage. We therefore believe that it is important that all development in the area is undertaken with respect to and in full accordance with the planning process, having regard to the established design and building line, and in a fair and consistent manner.

Dublin City Council received 32 valid planning applications in 2023, along with a further 27 that were outstanding a decision from 2022. Of these, 33 were granted permission and 15 refused permission. Also, some 12 appeals were decided by An Bord Pleanála. IDRA submitted observations on four planning applications in 2023.

TRAFFIC UPDATE

As part of our consultation process IDTAG proposed to undertake a traffic survey at the last IDRA AGM.

Survey The results of the survey findings were impressive with a high response rate. 70% of the Iona District residents confirmed that they viewed current traffic levels as being negative to the locality. Those who responded want; “change”, “no non-local traffic”, and “no through traffic”. Respondents proposed reducing through traffic (RAT-run), using one-way traffic flow, plus the introduction of filtered permeability.

Cause Rat-run routes—every set of road works (Cross Guns, Royal Canal, surface repairs, etc.) prompts vehicle drivers to take detours and seek shortcuts. Once an alternative route is found, it is not easy to get non-local drivers to return to previous routes.

Effect The bad news is that rat-run traffic has increased since our last report. Telraam data reports a car every 15 seconds at busy locations. Speeds have also increased. The Telraam report confirmed that 40-50% of vehicles exceed the legal limit. The “v85” (a statistical measure of “typical speed at a location”) averages 35 to 43km/h on Iona Road. Other streets are experiencing the same trend.

We did present at the recent MetroLink oral hearing. MetroLink will not tackle through traffic, our RAT-run traffic is not their problem. Dublin City Council remains our primary focus.

Action This is a council election year. We need your help; when election candidates come knocking, make sure to voice your concerns: ‘The IONA district needs RAT-run traffic removed from our streets.’

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN THE IDRA COMMITTEE, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH OR ONE OF THE SUB-GROUPS THEN SEND AN EMAIL TO IDRA.EMAIL@GMAIL.COM

MONTHLY CLEAN UP

The Iona Clean Up group began on January 27 2024, with the aim of making our area an even more pleasant environment to live in. This volunteer group meets on the last Saturday of every month outside Iona Church at 9.30am and cleaning equipment is provided. IDRA funded the purchase of branded high viz jackets for volunteers to wear.

We look forward to seeing as many residents as possible join us. For further details please contact Paul Collins on 087 2591508.



DUBLIN CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD AWARDS

On October 5 2023, the Botanic Road Senior Citizens' Complex received a Dublin City Neighbourhood Award in the category 'Senior Citizens' Complex'. The award was accepted by two of the residents Donal Ennis and Cepta Darcy.

Pictured at the awards ceremony: (l-r): Donal Ennis; Daithí de Róiste, Lord Mayor of Dublin; Cepta Darcy; Noel Rigney, Chairperson IDRA; Celine Byrne, former IDRA committee member

