

## Palace Fields Residents Association Monthly Minutes: [www.palacefields.com](http://www.palacefields.com)

**Date:** 02-Apr-14: 8pm;

**Next Meeting:** 07-May-14: 8pm; Árd Rí House Hotel.



1. Scan the code: [www.palacefields.com](http://www.palacefields.com)
2. We are now on Facebook: "Palace Fields c/o the Residents Association"

### Attendees

|                        |
|------------------------|
| 40: Bridget Flaherty   |
| 48: Michael Goss       |
| 64: Bronagh McLoughney |
| 77: John Fleming       |
| 91: William Martin     |
| 144: Ronan O'Ceallaigh |
| 150: Karen Kennedy     |
| 179: Marian Costello   |

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|--------------------|
| 190: M.Keaney      |
| 194: Gabriel Burke |
| 238: Paul Bennison |
| 242: Bernie Kelly  |
| 245: JJ Burke      |
| 245: Denise Burke  |
| 275: Mary Fahy     |

### Apologies

|                        |
|------------------------|
| 2: Marion Treacy       |
| 5: Marian Walsh        |
| 12: Deirdre McCarthy   |
| 143: Mary Monaghan     |
| 238: Geraldine Rigney  |
| 239: Stephen McDonnell |

**ALL WELCOME:** It would be appreciated if an hour be set aside on Saturday the 12th April 2014, between 10 and 11 am for rubbish to be picked up from the area outside your house and green, in an effort to tidy up the estate. Please make a note of this date and time, and take part.

### Treasurers Report & General Financial Details:

- Balance in main account as of 02-Apr-14 is €10,450.29, includes all expenditure to date. The balance of the social account is €389.46.
- €150 had been collected in March 2014.
- Outgoings for February last month were €67 for printing for the month.
- Generally the collection of contributions going well with €12,500 being collected to date. €500 above our target.
- Per 2013 yearly accounts MG stated that the €350 for the insurance in connection with the tree accident should have been entered in the accounts as a credit item.

### Printing Expenditure:

- As part of our overall cost reducing strategy, to free up more funds for the estate itself, targeting to reduce the cost of printing. This was discussed at some length during this month's meeting, and actions given for next month's meeting.
- MG has approached Tuam Office Supplies who currently supply our printed minutes. They are prepared to drop their price to €57 (from €67) for the monthly 300 copies.
- JF had approached Jaycee Printer his firm's suppliers. They quoted €40 for 300 copies. However, they would have to be picked up each month from Galway with distance, parking fees etc. Not convenient.
- WM and JF assessed carrying out our own printing. They considered that a HP Office Jet Printer doubled sided purchased for €200 Inc VAT. Can print 250 sheets at one time with an ink cartridge enabling 2300 prints to be done. Saving a considerable amount of money each year. Approximate costs in an average year to be compiled.
- BML suggested that we ask Strategic Printers in Tuam to price the printing. Also there maybe second hand printers available from work, that we could purchase. Although concern was raised over guarantees. BM to report back to MG at next month's meeting.

### Satellite Dishes: Apart from being visually unsightly, you do need planning permission:

**PLANNING PERMISSION:** None required for a satellite dish (up to 1 metre in diameter, and no higher than the top of the roof) at the back or side of the house **BUT a dish on the front of the house, needs planning permission** – Planning Guidelines in Ireland.

- BMcL produced a document taken from a planning book relating to satellite dishes. One large dish has been erected recently in area 3. Been agreed to call to the house and discuss this concern.
- Satellite dishes should not be erected on the front of buildings.

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**Estate Projects for 2014:** Working to a list produced at a meeting held last month between RO'C, WM and MG the following were discussed

1. Cleaning & Painting of rear of Wall at Main Entrance: Both jobs to be completed by Easter, weather permitting. WM has enquired for a water supply and is available No.4 with no objection from No. 1 for the piping to be placed through their property. Thank you to those residents for your support. **Very much appreciated.**
2. Revamp existing shrubberies: Emmett Murphy to report back to WM, with costs etc.
3. Extra shrubberies: BM asked about the shrubberies for areas 3, 6, 7 and 8. It was mentioned that these were still in hand and that MG and R'OC would apply for a grant from the Galway CoCo...
4. Drainage of water logged greens: MG has spoken to P. FitzMorris of Arlun Ltd and it is thought that this is unlikely to be done due to lack of funds. We need to find a Plan B.
5. Road sweeper and cleaning of gully's: MG has spoken to P. FitzMorris of Arlun Ltd and he indicated that the roads will be swept next week.
6. Dog Fouling Signage: €19.80 each with fixing bands. A delivery charge of €36 applies. It was thought that we need about seven signs located on lamp posts along the main access road and at the entrance of the estate. After some debate it was agreed that we would contact the Galway Co. Co. to see if these can be obtained free of charge. It was thought unlikely though as the estate had not been 'Taken in Charge'. Report back to next meeting.
7. Ruts left by Bin Lorries: The damage to the green in area 6. MG has received a text from Barna Waste confirming that this repair work would be carried out in the coming week.
8. Supply & Planting of trees that have died or been removed: MG had spoken to P. FitzMorris of Arlun Ltd and it is thought that this is unlikely to be done due to lack of funds. Plan B to be discussed.
9. Removal of support posts to trees: Removal of posts to trees in area 8. This will be done on 12-April-14.
10. Tree Protectors at base to protect bark against strimming: RO'C has obtained 50m of 4in diameter, drainage piping for €30. Can be cut to 15cm length, to guard 300 trees in the estate. To be added to trees in coming weeks.
11. Litter on estate: Litter collecting on morning, April 12<sup>th</sup>.
12. Soil to build up areas of subsidence: JF and MG had carried out of the estate last Saturday. It was concluded that there were 32 places to verges that needed filling rolling and seeding. It is thought that this would be about two tons of top soil. JJB to see if this can be obtained free of charge. Also, about 21 trees need to be removed, these being trees that have died or are not growing well since they were planted.
13. House numbering on walls: Wall number cleaning to be carried out before and on the 12-April-14, All asked to participate.
14. Cleaning of dirt between walls outside houses and pathways: Dirt and debris to be swept clean to the back edge of the footways. To be carried out before and on the 12-April-14. All asked to participate.
15. Bin Lid Ties: JF produced a sample of the bin lid ties. This item cost €15. It was thought by individuals that straps from a local shop could be purchased for €3. This was up to individuals. MG had not heard back from Wers Waste regarding fixing these straps to bin lids.
16. White lining to road junctions: MG had spoken to P. FitzMorris of Arlun Ltd and it is thought that this is unlikely to be done due to lack of funds.
17. Text Alert: Text alert forms were shown to the meeting. Forms to be filled in and sent off with fee as agreed at the AGM.
18. Annual Social: Agreed that the social would occur on either 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2014.

### **Maintenance of Communal Areas:**

#### **Green Areas & Trees:**

- JF and MG have spoken to Garrett Fox, and he has mentioned that generally the greens had high clay content in places and not enough drainable top soil. These areas can be observed with the yellowing of the grass in certain areas. JF has found a liquid that is thought to cure this problem over a period of time. He spoke to EM about this and he thought that this material would not solve the problem. It is still thought that the greens need drainage pipes. It was concluded that most of the greens had not been prepared properly in the first place and were not fit for purpose..

### **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:**

- JJB mentioned that he had two bikes stolen from his back garden and PB had caught them on his security camera, the Garda were called. The bikes have been recovered however; it was advised that the side passageways to houses should be gated.
- We ask all residents to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity no matter what it is. We all live together in the one community, lets protect our property.

#### **Useful Phone Numbers & Email Addresses:**

- Palace Fields Residents Association: 087 3395593.
- Electric Skyline for street lighting replacement low call 1890 328587 or text 087 1955076 or Email: [faulds@electricsskyline.ie](mailto:faulds@electricsskyline.ie)
- An Garda Síochana Tuam 093 70841. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Liaison Officer – Frank Breslin.
- Dog warden name and number Christy Corcoran 087-2224192