

Palace Fields Residents Association Monthly Minutes: www.palacefields.com

Date: 03-Sept-14: 8pm; **Next Meeting:** 01-Oct-14: 8pm; Árd Rí House Hotel.



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

Attendees

5: Marian Walsh
12: Deirdre McCarthy
40: Bridget Flaherty
48: Michael Goss
77: John Fleming
91: William Martin
144: Ronan O'Ceallaigh

194: Gabriel Burne
194: Nuelle Quinn
150: Karen Kennedy
242: Bernie Kelly
245: JJ Burke
275: Mary Fahy

Apologies

2: Marion Treacy
179: Marian Costello
239: Stephen McDonnell

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2014: €60 contributions for financial year May 2014 to April 2015, has commenced. Please have your contribution ready for your representative when they call to your house during the coming weeks. **Thanks in advance to everyone** for your contribution. This contribution is vital to keeping our estate in pristine condition, ensuring that the estate is a pleasurable place to live.

Treasurers Report & General Financial Details:

- Balance in main account as of 03-Sept-14 is €18,864.29, includes all expenditure to date. The balance of the social account is €389.46.
- €2,155 had been collected in June & July, and €1,730 in August 2014. Total collection for this financial year €9,660, and this includes €220 in back payments from the last financial year 2013/14.
- Outgoings for July was €360 Insurance, €740 Trees from Murphys, €57 Printing from Tuam Office Supplies, and €100 Petty Cash (includes paint for rear of wall at entrance to estate). Outgoings for August were €120 for the website which is for two years.
- WM reported that the collections for our fourth financial year had started well. However, it would help collectors a great deal, if contributions could be brought round to the appropriate house. Many thanks to all who have made their contributions.
- WM reported that St. Jarleths Credit Union had organised an electronic payment system, and if you want to use this method for payment of the contribution, please include your name and the no. of the house, using the following account details:

Palace Fields Resident Association

BIC: JACIIE21

IBAN: IE75JAC199112093221864

Acc.: 492955

House Number: ??

- MG confirmed that having spoken to Paul Fitzmorris of Arlun Ltd that their yearly contribution has been reduced to €280 from €320 due to one of the houses being sold, No. 213.

General Lawn Maintenance & Tendering 2015/16:

- RO'C had met with Garret Fox to extend thanks for making a good job of the ground maintenance generally. There was only one area of complaint where grass had been left between support posts and tree trunks. MG to speak to GF. It was clarified that the long grass behind the strimming protectors would have to be taken out by residents GF should be cutting the rest.
- MG/WM confirmed that documents are to be prepared for tender purposes for the maintenance of the estate for years 2015/16. Any ideas for amendments to clauses will be welcome by next month.

Tree Replacement:

- 10 new trees were replaced in the estate at the cost of €740, by Murphys. After survey completion a further 14 trees are required and after discussion, and been voted with a maximum majority of 13/13 to proceed to replace these 14 trees also. Key objective is to replace dead trees, on the verges and the filling of gaps where trees have been removed from a few years back. The trees will be Acres (Maple) as before, since this species appear to do well in the soil conditions of the estate, unlike the Sorbus (Ash) that can be susceptible to a disease unique to Ash trees. It was noted that the expenditure for the 24 trees may be refundable when the estate is "Taken in Charge".

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Park Entrance:

- The scheme to improve the pedestrian entrance of the park will need planning permission and a licence to fell certain trees. MG had received a email from Sean Langam on the 13th June last confirming this. A meeting is to be set up to discuss the project with council officers prior to an application being made. It is thought that grants would be available to help carry out this work however permission should be sort first followed by costs.

NEW Shrub Beds:

- The scheme to create a new rockery and shrub bed to area 3 has come out at €2,462.95 including the drainage works as reported in the last minutes. This together with similar proposals to areas 6,7 and 8 will come to a total cost of €9,851.00 including 13% VAT. Some discussion took place on this, it was agreed that we would look at applying for a Local Authority grant for these works to see what could be procured. RO'C to explore the making of the applicaton.

TEXT ALERT Security:

- JJB reported that he had spoken to the Gardai regarding the 'Text alert' scheme. He produced a form that was duly signed by MG and DMC. He will establish the text numbers to be entered on the system which will include key members of the residents committee.

"Taking in Charge" of the Estate:

- MG reported that he was still awaiting a response from Arlum Ltd regarding the 'Taking in Charge' of the estate. However, there was some indication that they may be moving forward with this item.

BORD Gais:

- Bord Gais have been in touch with the website. They require a 20% take up before any action is taken. JF to create new information box on website.

Summary of Estate Projects for 2014:

In Progress Or Completed:

- Cleaning & Painting of rear of Wall at Main Entrance:** Painting of the rear of the front wall has been completed to erase the graffiti that was written on the wall by local thugs. Many thanks to RO'C, WM, SMD, JF. This was completed during the summer period. The colour grey colour was used similar to concrete colour itself. All volunteers welcome.– **COMPLETED**
- 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. No feedback from Galway Co. Co. Agreed to purchase from Rennick signs. Dog fouling has become worse again, with 10 new dogs on the estate. Voted to purchase signs, 13/13 in agreement. – **To be ordered.**
- Tree supports:** R'OC to address the tree support issue in Area 1 – **To be started within next month.**
- Revamp existing shrubberies:** MG and ROC met with Emmett Murphy. Been discussed to add stone verges to support extra soil, to be discussed with EM – **feedback next meeting.**
- Cleaning of shrub bed at front entrance:** Remove grass and general verging. Volunteers required ?

To Be Commenced:

- Drainage of water logged greens:** MG has spoken to P. FitzMorris of Arlum Ltd and it is thought that this is unlikely to be done due to lack of funds. We need to find a Plan B. No feedback. **Open.**
- Road sweeper and cleaning of gully's:** Completed. This action is now closed for this part of the year.2015? **Open.**
- 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 tonnes of top soil. JJB to see if this can be obtained free of charge. **Open.**
- Cleaning of dirt between walls outside houses and pathways:** Dirt and debris to be swept clean to the back edge of the footways. Open and awaiting volunteers, contact the association phone number for availability. **Open**

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: faults@electricsskyline.ie
- An Garda Síochana Tuam 093 70841. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Liaison Officer – Frank Breslin.
- Dog warden name and number Christy Corcoran 087-2224192